Brigham Young University

THE DAILY UNIVERSE

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Christmas kissin'

From mistletoe to music, you'll find a complete guide to the holidays in today's special pullout section.

AFP Photo

David Boies, left, and Dexter Douglass, lawyers for Al Gore, react during a Thursday hearing in Leon County Circuit Court. This hearing is one of the latest of several court hearings in the election controversy's wake.

> "We're getting close to the end."
> — Lawyers for Al Gore

Supreme tug of war unfolds

Transition takes shape as Bush meets with Colin Powell

Associated Press

Al Gore's lawyers battled for his political survival in the Florida and U.S. Supreme courts Thursday, pleading against delaying fresh vote recounts "even one day" as a half-million ballots sped by rental truck to Tallahassee. GOP lawmakers jockeyed in the state capital to award the presidency to George W. Bush in case the judges wouldn't.

"When the counting stops, we want to be prepared to lead this nation," Bush said in Texas between transition meetings with retired Gen. Colin Powell — the star of his Cabinet-in-the-making. Officials said the meeting cemented Powell's position as secretary of state in a presumptive Bush administration.

In Florida, the GOP-dominated state Legislature drew a step closer to appointing its own slate of presidential electors as a committee urged leaders to call a special session. Democrats called that "a brazen power play," while they worked elsewhere to keep Gore in the game.

Bush, whose brother is governor of the state, raised no objection to the Legislature's actions, and his lawyers defended the lawmakers' right to name a GOP slate. "It's time to get some finality," Bush said in an appearance with Powell at his Crawford, Texas, ranch.

Hundreds of miles away in Florida, Lt. Jim Kersey's squad car headed up the ballot brigade as it passed a handmade sign reading "No chad zone." Also Disney World.

"The whole world is watching," he said.

And what sights to see: Lawmakers cussed and fumed in a legislative committee room; the two could-be presidents plotted their transitions to power; legal briefs ricocheted between the nation's courts; and the banana-yellow rental truck — swarmed

court ▸ *page 2*

Teachers to strike Tuesday

By Irinna Schwenke
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NewsNet Staff Writer

For Utah public school students, Christmas vacation may come sooner than expected.

Phyllis Sorensen, president of the Utah Education Association, conducted a press conference Thursday to announce a statewide teacher's strike for Tuesday.

Teachers will be spending the day educating the community about the needs of Utah students. Each district will meet in designated community areas to increase awareness, Sorensen said.

The job action comes as a response to the frustration Utah educators have with the state's legislative task force.

Following the legislative session last spring, Granite School District teachers protested for increased education funds, said Debbie White, president of the Granite Education Association.

In response, the task force was formed to develop a long-term funding plan to be presented to the Education Interim Committee at the end of November, White said.

The task force's five-point plan was presented to the Education Interim Committee on Thursday morning.

The plan addresses giving $30.6 million for new textbooks, an additional $10 million for the construction of new schools and using fees from waste companies for education, said Sen. Lyle Hillyard, R-Logan.

"I saw some good effort from the task force, but we need more. They made progress, but it didn't amount to improving the quality of education in the long term," Sorensen said.

All school districts, except for Granite, are expected to participate in the strike, Sorensen said.

"The job action is giving teachers the means to let their voices be heard in a united fashion," she said.

The Granite School District will be in session on Tuesday because of the action it took earlier this year, White said.

strike ▸ *page 2*

Holly Baldwin/Daily Universe

Phillis Sorenson, president of the Utah Education Association, announces a statewide teacher's strike at a press conference Thursday.

> "I think this is the right thing to do at the right time."
> — Wendy Bromley, president of the Jordan Education Association

ACLU fights English-only

By Rob Meier and Jacob Crosby
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NewsNet Staff Writers

The American Civil Liberties Union of Utah filed a lawsuit on Thursday challenging the English-only statute Gov. Mike Leavitt signed Monday.

The law came with the passage of Initiative A on Nov. 7. The initiative was contested between those who wanted to make English Utah's official language and those against it.

Stephen Clark, legal director for the ACLU, said his organization is challenging the statute based on constitutional grounds.

The ACLU also filed a court order that the statute not go into effect until the constitutional issues are resolved, he said.

According to Utah code, the English-only statute becomes effective five days after the governor signs a proclamation declaring the statute to be in full force and effect as Utah law.

The Utah State Attorney General's office was notified of the suit late Thursday afternoon and was unable to officially comment.

According to the ACLU, a court hearing is scheduled for today at 8:30 a.m. in Utah's 3rd District Court.

Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson is one of the named plaintiffs in the case.

According to the brief filed by the ACLU, Anderson "stands to be substantially burdened in his official duties as mayor of Salt Lake City by vague and arbitrary restrictions on his ability to design and implement policies and programs and to conduct business on behalf of Salt Lake City in languages other than English."

Other states have overturned English-only initiatives, including Arizona.

In 1998 the state's Supreme Court overturned Arizona's initiative, stating that the law violated the First Amendment.

Alabama will argue its English-only law before the Supreme Court next month, according to an ACLU news release.

On Monday, the State Elections Office certified that Initiative A had passed with 67 percent of the vote.

RELIGION

Presidency
are holiday
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WORLD

tinians
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WORLD

i violence
opts boycott
S. products

for these stories, check out NEWSNET

on newsnet.byu.edu
Friday Edition on KBYU-TV news
NEL 11, 5:30 P.M.
://newsnet.byu.edu

NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled from staff and news service reports

China defends its 2008 Olympic bid

BEIJING — China sought Thursday to protect its bid for the 2008 Olympics from criticism over human rights, accusing a British parliamentary committee of violating the spirit of the games by opposing Beijing's bid.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue charged that by saying human rights concerns make China's capital an inappropriate Olympic host, the foreign affairs select committee of the British House of Commons improperly linked the world's biggest sporting event with politics, "It is entirely unacceptable to the Chinese side," Zhang said.

"Any action that obstructs Beijing's bid to get the Olympic Games is incompatible with the Olympic spirit and will not go anywhere."

Zhang said the "human rights of the Chinese people are in their best time ever" and that the world should credit China for its rights improvements.

Job market grows for liberal arts grads

DETROIT — Job prospects haven't been this good for liberal arts graduates in years.

Liberal-arts graduates can expect to be more fervently sought after this year and to be offered better salaries, according to the 30th annual recruiting trends survey conducted by the Collegiate Employment Research Institute at Michigan State University.

Among the reasons: The earlier-than-predicted retirements of the oldest baby boomers have created job openings of all kinds.

Also, with the high-tech industry booming, Terri LaMarco, associate director for employer relations at the University of Michigan, said employers in recent years have changed their attitudes about liberal arts majors.

"I think what they are seeing is that liberal arts majors can fill some of the positions that used to be considered technical," LaMarco said.

Study links bad friends, teen troubles

WASHINGTON — Mom and Dad were right: Flunking in school and hanging out with a bad crowd lead to trouble.

So says a federally funded national survey of about 10,000 high school students. It found that all adolescents — black, white or Hispanic, rich or poor — are much more likely to drink alcohol, carry or use weapons, smoke cigarettes or have sex if they spend a lot of unsupervised time with friends and have academic problems.

"If we make predictions about kids based on the color of their skin, based on their parents' bank account or how many parents they live with, we're only going to be right a tiny percent of the time," Dr. Robert Blum, the study's principal investigator, said Thursday.

"We need to focus on factors in the immediate environment that have much more to do with whether a young person will have a viable future," Blum said.

Blum said that while the amount of "risky" behavior teens engage in varies between racial and economic groups and those with different family structures, those factors have little influence on an individual teen's actions.

New study grades states on education

Location turns out to be crucial to whether someone obtains a college degree, according to Measuring Up 2000, a new study that evaluates higher education state-by-state.

The first-of-its kind study by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, a think tank in San Jose, Calif., was released Thursday in Washington.

Each state received a grade of A through F in five areas. The study focused on states because of their role in education. States determine policy and spending on public universities and colleges, and they provide about 29 percent of support for all public and private colleges.

Many states were found to be uneven. Utah got A's for preparation and affordability, a B- in benefits to the state from the education of its residents, a C for 18- to 44-year-olds enrolled in any higher education or training, and a D+ for degree-completion rate.

WEATHER

Yesterday		Today	Saturday
High	48 as of		
Low	31 5 p.m.		
		Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy
Precipitation			
Yesterday	Trace		
Month to date	1.49"	High 44	High 48
Year to date	16.38"	Low 29	Low 28

sources: BYU Geography Dept., CNN

SCRIPTURE OF THE DAY

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

— John 14:27

Amber Wathor, 20, a junior from Livermore, Calif., majoring in math education, likes this scripture because "it lets me know that Christ is always there for me and when I am having a hard time, I can make it through anything."

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Two temples completed in Brazil

By Janene Pack
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NewsNet Staff Writer

> "The temple committee for the Recife Brazil Temple has a goal to attract 200,000 visitors. That is a an incredible goal."
>
> — Don Russell, Church Public Affairs Manager

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will dedicate the newly completed Recife Brazil Temple and the Porto Alegre Brazil Temple this month.

The public has been invited to tour the two newly completed temples and to attend the temple dedications taking place in mid-December.

President Gordon B. Hinckley has said he wants to make the blessings of the temple more accessible to Latter-day Saints, according to a recent news release.

Many members have had to travel considerable distances in Brazil to go to the temple, said Don Russell, public affairs manager for the LDS Church in Brazil.

Some members have to take a two-to-three day bus ride, plus a boat trip, he said.

It truly is a blessing that these temples have been built, he said.

The Recife Brazil Temple is a larger temple than the Porto Alegre Brazil Temple because it serves a large population base, Russell said.

The coast of Brazil is heavily populated. There are quite a few members in Recife because it is the church's headquarters in northeast Brazil, he said.

Public tours of the Recife Brazil Temple began Nov. 11 and will continue through Saturday.

"The temple committee for the Recife Brazil Temple has a goal to attract 200,000 visitors," Russell said. "That is an incredible goal; we really are expecting a huge turnout."

Public tours for the Porto Alegre Brazil Temple will begin Saturday and will continue through Dec. 9. No tours will be offered on Sunday.

The Porto Alegre Brazil Temple is a smaller temple because there are not as many members in that area, Russell said.

Following the public open hou-es, the temples will be formal- dedicated.

The Recife Brazil Temple wi- be dedicated Dec. 15, said Ki- Farah, public spokeswoman f- the LDS Church. Four dedicato- sessions will take place, and t- temple will be open for memb- services Dec. 16.

The Porto Alegre Brazil Temp- will be dedicated Dec. 17. It w- also have four dedicatory sessio- and will open to the public D- 18, she said.

Plans about who will perfor- the dedications have not be- finalized yet, Russell said.

The Montevideo Urugua- Temple was supposed to be ded- cated with the temples in Braz- but it is not finished yet becau- of construction delays, he said.

The temple will probably b- dedicated sometime in the fa- part of the next year, he said.

court

from page 1

by police and media vehicles on Ronald Reagan Turnpike carried contested ballots to Circuit Judge N. Sanders Sauls' court.

The recount convoy was captured by TV cameras in helicopters, giving Americans a birds-eye view all the way from Palm Beach to Tallahassee.

Sauls could need the ballots if he sides with Gore after a hearing Saturday on the merits of recounts in three counties. The vice president is trying to overturn the official results of Florida's election, which give Bush a 537-vote lead and the 25 electoral votes needed to claim the White House.

Gore's advisers believe he needs a court victory and a speedy reduction of Bush's lead to keep public patience with a 23-day standoff that the vice president said could linger until the Electoral College meets Dec. 18.

His lawyers filed an urgent plea with the Florida Supreme Court asking the seven justices, all with Democratic ties, to start hand-counting ballots while Sauls decides whether the recounts could be added to Gore's totals. "There is no reason to delay counting ballots even one day," the brief read.

Summing up Gore's urgency, both legally and politically, his lawyers told the court: "We're getting close to the end."

A new potential for delay emerged late Thursday when Republicans asked Sauls to order an additional 1.2 million ballots brought to Tallahassee from Volusia, Broward and Pinellas counties. The judge has not yet considered the request.

"We believe there were a number of illegal votes for Gore in those counties," said Bush spokesman Scott McClellan.

The vice president's allies were just as emphatic about a Florida legislative committee's recommendation that a special session be called to choose a slate of electors, presumably Bush supporters.

Bush's brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, said lawmakers may need to intercede if the results are still uncertain Dec. 12, the day states must choose their electors. "Clearly, the U.S. Constitution delegates the authority of the selection of the electors to the Legislature," he said. "That is as clear as can be."

Not so, said Gore's lawyers.

They filed papers with the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that the Legislature would be on shaky ground if it appointed its own slate. Both sides were submitting briefs in advance of Friday's Supreme Court oral arguments in Washington.

Gore's running mate, Joseph Lieberman, accused Jeb Bush of helping his brother with a power grab.

"It threatens to put us into a constitutional crisis," Lieberman said. Until now, only Bush's team had talked of stakes so high in an effort to force Gore to concede. Democrats employed the heated rhetoric Thursday to portray Bush as a political puppeteer pulling every available string to maintain his minuscule lead.

Bush brushed off questions about the Legislature, saying, "I won three counts and I think it's time" to end the election.

strik

from page

"Our teachers felt they made their statement at t- legislative session last year. We will not be strik- with the rest of the state on Dec. 5," White said.

The task force came up with some interest- ideas, but these ideas need to be built upon, Wh- said.

"I think this is the right thing to do at the ri- time," said Wendy Bromley, president of the Jorda- Education Association.

The Jordan School District will be participating i- the statewide strike.

Tuesday, teachers and district officials will pass o- literature on education funding on street corne- Bromley said.

"We're tired of being lobbyist. The Jordan distri- has some of the highest class sizes in the state a- we're tired of the burdens being placed on our teac- ers," she said.

Teachers in the Jordan School District are suppor- ive of the job action, Bromley said.

Pam Bunderson, a fifth grade teacher at Rid- Crest Elementary School in Salt Lake County, sa- the UEA made the correct decision.

"The job action has a purpose. Teachers need to b- in the classroom, not on Capitol Hill year after ye- protesting for more money," Bunderson said.

The inconsistency of the task force was one fru- tration Bunderson noticed.

"They cancelled several meetings, not all membe- were present at all the meetings and they did litt- until the week the report was due," she said.

Bunderson said one of her students summed up t- situation best.

It's like a student who reads two chapters of a bo- the night before the book report is due, Bunderson- student said.

"We're not saying thank you, we're taking a j- action. We need the Legislature's attention becau- Utah students deserve more," Bunderson said.

BYU
ANNUAL FUND

I just got matched!

For several years now, BYU students have supported the BYU student fund raising campaign "Students Helping Students." They may never know whom they have helped, but as the recipients of these blessings in turn give, the charitable experience of sharing in Christ's love becomes perpetuated.

Several BYU supporters have established a Matching Challenge Grant to encourage students to help those around them by giving to the BYU Annual Fund. For students and graduating seniors, *they will match gifts five to one!* This means your $10 gift today will be worth $60 to the university. A $30 gift will generate a match of $150!

Give today to the Annual Fund, which supports students in need, top university priorities and the general scholarship endowment.

Graduating seniors, clip the coupon below OR watch in your mail for your chance to participate in the Class of 2000 pledge–and get your three-year pledge matched five to one!

For questions call 378-2718 or e-mail to annualfund@byu.edu.

Clip the coupon below or give through our website by clicking "donations" on BYU's homepage www.byu.edu

Yes, I want to support the University's Scholarship programs. Enclosed is my gift of $____ for the BYU Annual Fund, **to be matched five to one.**

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Student ID# _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

BYU
ANNUAL FUND

Return this coupon with your gift to BYU Annual Fund, PO Box 27188, Provo, UT 84602-7188. Drop in campus mail.

roling at Carillon carries on

ni Hellewell
wsroom.byu.edu
staff Writer

iar university holiday
will continue this
esspite a lack of help
USA.
at the Carillon Tower
tradition at BYU since
Don Cook, a professor
ic department.
ast, BYUSA has spon-
caroling by setting up
id providing hot choco-
late, he said.

Ron Jones, a BYUSA coordinator, said BYUSA was concerned about the number of employees, especially ground crew, who would have to work on Sunday.

However, Cook said he was determined to see this tradition continue.

There won't be much publicity and there won't be hot chocolate, he said. But it will be a joyful occasion.

Cook said that he, along with several students who are taking lessons, would be playing the bells Sunday evening.

Michaela Walker, 21, a junior from Freeport, Ill., majoring in electronic engineering technology, said she is excited to play the bells.

"This is like our end of the semester recital," she said.

In previous years, BYUSA has done so much to help this activity, she said. But many people had to work on Sunday.

"It is more important they rest on the Sabbath," Walker said.

POLICE BEAT

d by Andy North
wsroom.byu.edu
staff Writer

n Tuesday and
y, a car parked east of
ard Marriott Center was
d and robbed. One of the
ows was smashed to
ry into the vehicle.
e items stolen were two
a stereo faceplate, an
and 15 CDs. The stolen
ed $234 and the broken
cost $150 to repair.
e no suspects.
laptop computer was
n a lab in the James E.
Building sometime
Nov. 23 and Monday.
uter was only accessible
through several key-
. There was no forced
the doors were locked.
is estimated at $4,800.

•Workers in the John A. Widtsoe Building reported a missing frog and gecko. The frog has been missing since Nov. 20 and the gecko disappeared Monday. The frog is valued at $20 and the gecko at $40. There are no suspects.

•A rent check was stolen from a landlord's mailbox in Wymount Terrace on Nov. 22. The tenant put the check in the mailbox because the landlord was not home. Later the envelope that contained the check was found nearby, but the check was missing. The tenant canceled the check, and an investigation is continuing.

VANDALISM

•Black paint was found on the side of a Wymount Terrace apartment Monday. Police report that the graffiti appeared to have been done by someone between the age of 8 and 10 years old. The graffiti was in the shape of either an "N" or an "X." It appeared an attempt had been made to clean the letter because it was smeared. Police have no suspects.

ACCIDENT

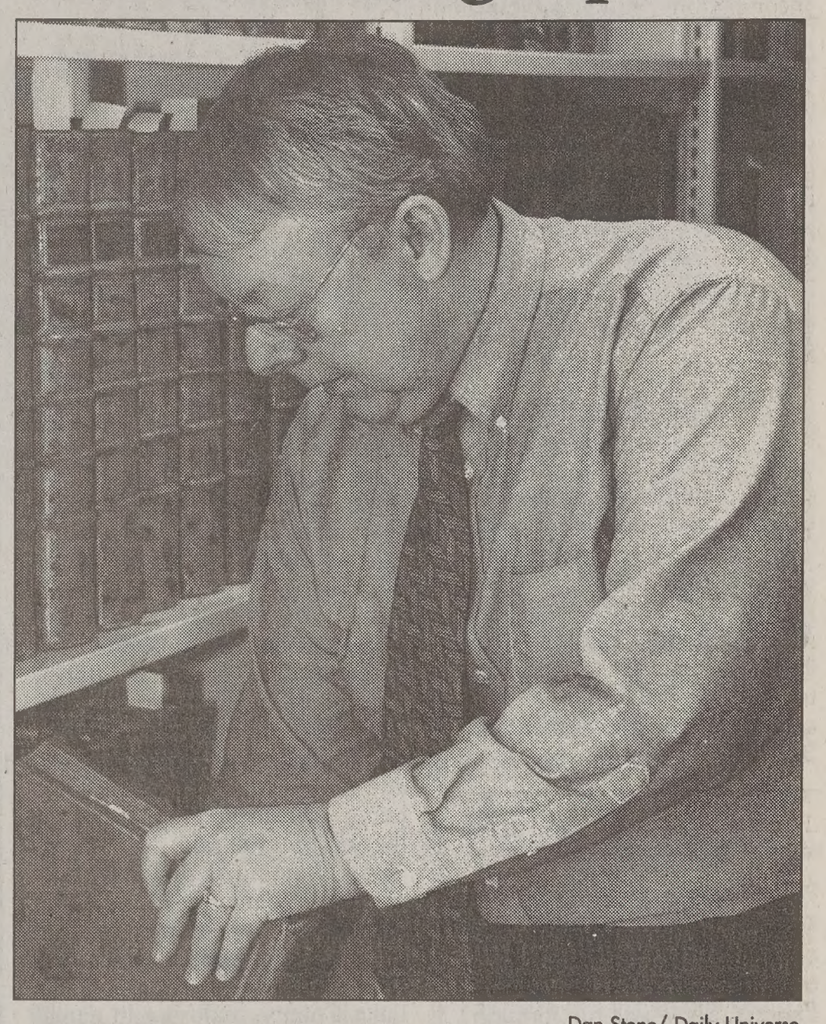
•A security gate south of campus damaged the windshield of a student's Jeep on Nov. 22. As the student drove under the raised arm, the gate malfunctioned and came down on the vehicle's windshield. Total damage is estimated at $300.

ANIMAL CALL

•On Monday at 10 a.m., a deer was found caught in the railing near the ticket office of the J. Willard Marriott Center. Police cut the railing with bolt cutters to help free the animal. The deer immediately ran free when the railing was removed.

Special Collections curators committed to Y, the gospel

By Kirk Blad
kirk@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer



Dan Stone/ Daily Universe

Scott Duvall, department chair of L. Tom Perry Special Collections in the Harold B. Lee Library, shows off a collection of world encyclopedias. Special Collections curators are among the "most versatile and complete" professionals at BYU.

Unlocking the doors to the L. Tom Perry Special Collections in the Harold B. Lee Library reveals some of BYU's most cherished and prized possessions — the collection's curators.

"They are hidden treasures," said Katie deJong, 20, a junior from Cincinnati, majoring in English and Special Collections reference desk worker. "The curators represent a combination of commitment to the gospel, university and students with a fun and passionate attitude."

The curators are hidden because most students don't know they exist, she said.

"Their work is transparent to most people in the outside community," said Brad Westwood, assistant department chair of the L. Tom Perry Special Collections.

"It takes tenacious and passionate curators to get the collections here," he said.

The curators' work often requires many more hours than the standard 40 a week, he said.

"You just cannot do this stuff if you don't love it," Westwood said.

He said he considers curators some of the most versatile and complete professionals.

"They are investigators of history and are part scientists, archeologists, teachers and writers," Westwood said. "They are preserving some of the most significant documents, records and books dealing with the international community."

BYU curators are unique because they incorporate the gospel into their profession, he said.

"The fruits of the Spirit are evident in their work, and they are really trying to make the gospel work in a library setting," Westwood said. "There is no place like this outside of BYU."

The curators give life to the archives, said Scott Duvall, department chair of the L. Tom Perry Special Collections and curator of European printed books.

"Archives won't work without people who are passionately interested in presenting them," he said.

Duvall said he believes the curators' passion is a result of having a testimony of the importance of preserving history and cultures.

Kristi Bell, curator of folklore archives, said her passion is interacting with students and assistants.

"It's fun to talk to students and see a light go on and to see them begin to understand," she said. "The people here really want to help and are interested in what students are doing."

S church mourns two leaders

professor ored after en death

a: Stuart
wsroom.byu.edu
staff Writer

John Palmer, an influ-
J world religion profes-
sor and
church
leader, died
unexpectedly
at age 73 on
Monday in
Provo.

Palmer's training was in world religion, but he also had a history background, said Paul Hyre, a BYU emeritus history who studied with t the University of at Berkeley.

ence extended beyond Education as an instru- ader in establishing the Kennedy Center for nal Studies, Hyre said. had good relations with nnedy, who at the time cial ambassador-at-large est Presidency," he said. hat connection Palmer unds for the Kennedy d also sold the idea of tional studies center to stration," Hyre said. international interest nt when they were at ether, he said. get together often at to solve the world's and have sack lunch Hyre said. was very motivated and nd was known for his commitment to the said. ays had a very broad the world was his cam- said. "He was always in the international out- e church."

involvement with The Jesus Christ of Latter- s also extended across specifically in Asia. ng graduation from 952, he served as an lain in the Korean War. erved as a mission and esident in South Korea regional representative st Asia. other worldwide trav- ed Japan, China, India, rica, Israel and the st.

services will be t 3035 Mojave Lane in viewing will be held 8 p.m. on Friday at the uary in Provo or 10 to on Saturday where the vices will be held.

CES administrator dies of cancer

By Nancy Johanson
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News Net Staff writer

Milton L. Sharp, administrator of the Church Education System's Continuing Education Programs-North, died of cancer on Wednesday.

Since 1965, Sharp worked with Continuing Education programs, administering programs such as Know Your Religion and Education Week.

"Milt took such great personal concern for the people he served. You always knew, when you were working with a program that Milt Sharp directed, that you were in good hands," said Duane Hiatt, director of editorial and media productions for Continuing Education.

For his work with Continuing Education, Sharp received the BYU Division of Continuing Education Administrative Excellence Award in 1981, the Presidential Appreciation Award from President Merrill J. Bateman in 1998 and a service award from the Utah Association for Adult Community and Continuing Education in April 2000.

Sharp loved BYU.

"For years, Milton kept the statistics at football and basketball games at BYU because of his love of the game and the Cougars," Hiatt said.

Sharp was a broadcast major at BYU in the early days of KBYU-TV, helping to implement the program, Hiatt said.

Those who knew Sharp said they will miss him.

"We are grateful for that additional time we have had with a dear friend who has inspired us all with his faith and positive attitude during such a time," said Richard Eddy, dean of Continuing Education.

Funeral services for Sharp will be on Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Sharon First Ward Chapel at 641 S. 400 East, in Orem.

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$1.50 Off Early Show On Fri & Sat
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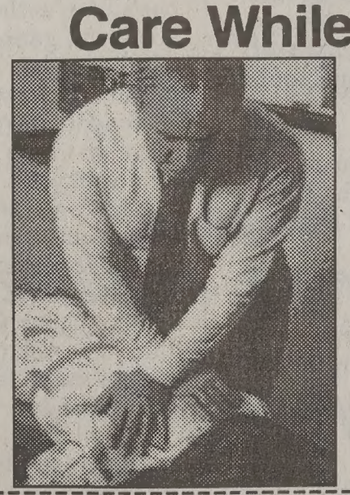

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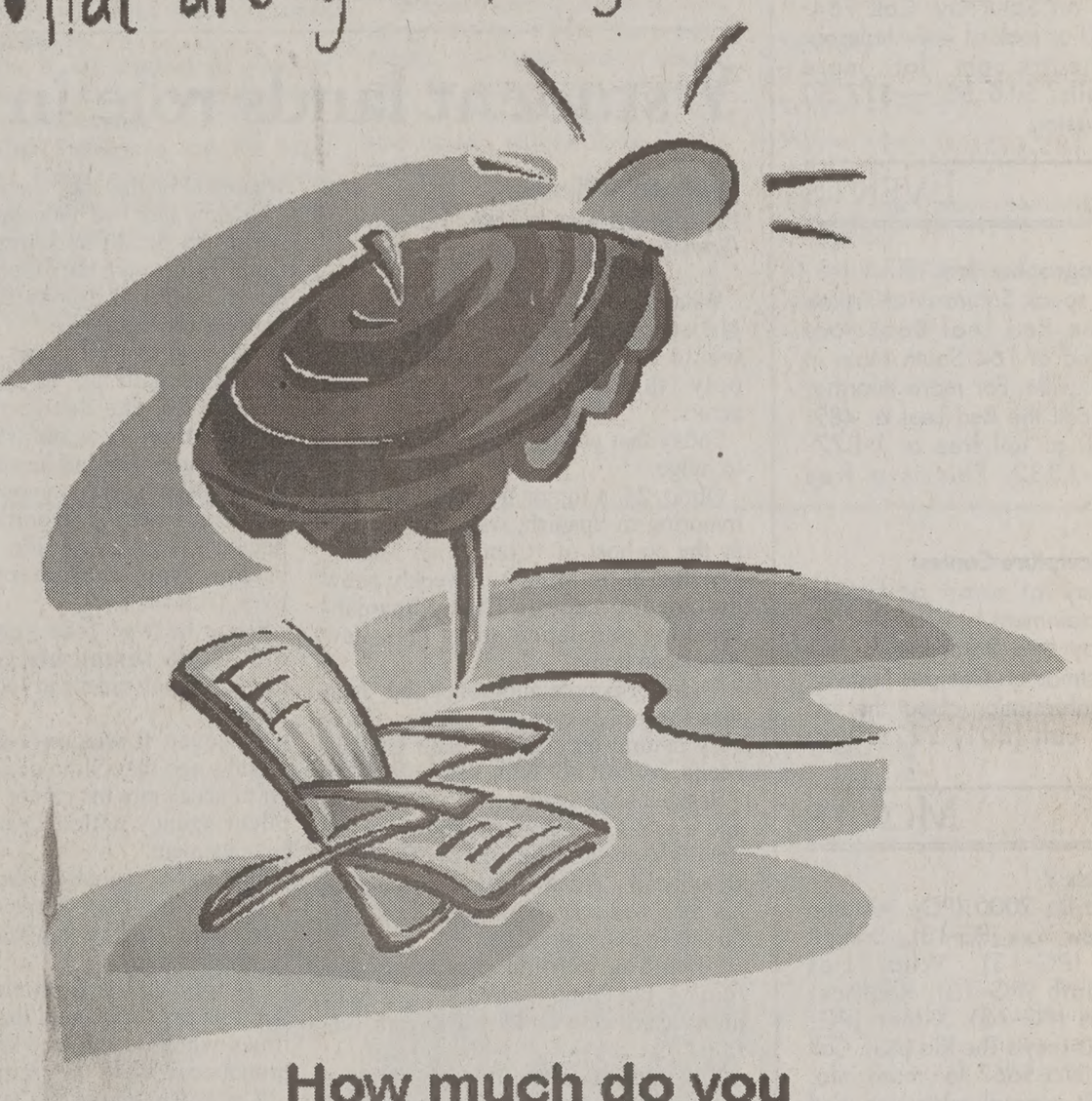
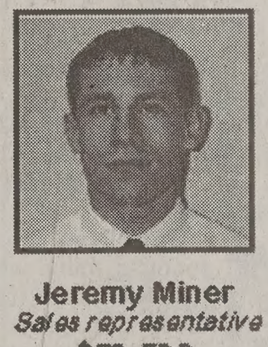
CALL TODAY!
Located Behind Timp Missionary Book Store

What are you doing this summer?



How much do you need to pay the bills?



Jeremy Miner
Sales representative
$59,500

Here's what SafeHome Security employees averaged over four months of work:

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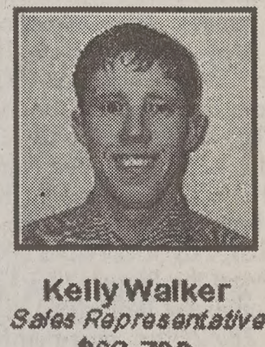
Installers: $16,000+!



Kelly Walker
Sales Representative
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Information Meeting:
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Weekend Calendar

To submit an event, send an e-mail to calendar@du2.byu.edu. Include event info, contact name and phone number. Compiled by Kyle Fotheringham.

Music

Christmas Entertainment at Thanksgiving Point
The Salzburg Folk Ensemble will perform today, and on Saturday a Harp Ensemble will play at Thanksgiving Point. The lights and entertainment are free. The groups will perform in the lobby of the Museum of Ancient Life, beginning at 7 p.m.

A Celebration of Christmas
In the de Jong Concert Hall today and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Matinee at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are $8 and $5 with student ID. For information call 378-3002.

Jazz Lab Band
In the Madsen Recital hall Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Free admission. For information call 378-3002.

Theater

Polar Express
A Christmas-themed train ride on the Heber Creeper, based on the story of the Polar Express. Show will run through Dec. 23. Prices are $22.50 for adults, $20 for seniors and $13.50 for children. Call 1-800-327-7220 for reservations or more information.

A Little London Christmas
At the Little London Dinner Theater in Pleasant Grove every Wednesday through Saturday until Dec. 23. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7:20 p.m. Prices are $25 per person. Please call 785-0827 to make reservations.

A Christmas Carol
Now through Dec. 22 at the Hale Center Theatre at Harman Hall, 3333 South Decker Lake Drive (2200 West) West Valley City. 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m. also on Saturday. Call 984-9000 or look at www.halecentertheatre.com for more details. $15.50 — $17.50 admission.

Events

Photographer Tom Till
Will speak Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Red Leaf Bookstore located at 164 South Main in Springville. For more information call the Red Leaf at 489-1390 or toll free at 1-877-287-1332. This is a free event.

Ice Sculpture Contest
Friday at noon at UVSC. Entertainment is scheduled for Friday and Saturday for the Christmas on Campus Festival. For information about the festival call (801) 222-8094. Free.

Movies

Movies 8
Godzilla 2000 (PG), Autumn in New York (PG-13), Bring It On (PG-13), What Lies Beneath (PG-13), Replacements (PG-13), X-Men (PG-13), Disney's The Kid (PG). Call 801-375-5667 for more info. $1.50 general admission and $1 before 5 p.m.

Cinemark 16
New movies: 102 Dalmations (G), Also playing: How The Grinch Stole Christmas (PG), Rugrats in Paris (G), Bounce (PG-13), Sixth Day (PG-13), Little Nicky (PG-13), Red Planet (PG-13), Charlie's Angels (PG-13), Legend of Bagger Vance (PG-13), Pay it Forward (PG-13), Meet the Parents (PG-13), Remember the Titans (PG). Call 852-2872 for more info. $3.50 for 1st showing, $4.50 till 5 p.m. then $6.75 for adults and $4.50 for seniors and children.

Comedy

Johnny B's Comedy Club
Features Hypnotist Kenn Dubner. Friday and Saturday at 8 and 10 p.m. Call (801) 377-6910 to make reservations. The club is located at 177 W 300 S, Provo. Tickets are $6.50. The show sells out quickly so call for reservations.

BYU folk dancers to celebrate Christmas

Ensemble to perform 41st concert

By Gina Groeger
gina@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

File photo

BYU International Folk Ensemble performs a dance during last year's production of "Christmas Around the World." The ensemble will perform tonight and Saturday in the Marriott Center.

For the 41st year in a row, the world is coming to BYU campus to celebrate Christmas.

The BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble will present "Christmas Around the World" tonight and Saturday in the Marriott Center.

The variety of folk dances, costumes and colors will provide something for everyone's tastes, said rehearsal specialist Jeanette Geslison.

A lot of work has taken place to make the dances look good for the audience, said Ed Austin, director of the International Folk Dance Ensemble .

The elements of tradition, dance and culture of each country are being used to create a tease for the audience, he said.

Folk dancing is different than any other dancing because the dancers have to portray another culture, said Andrea DeYoung, 18, a freshman from Draper, Salt Lake County, majoring in dental hygiene.

The theme for this year's program is "Celebrating a New Millennium," Austin said.

However, the dances chosen for the program have nothing to do with the theme, he said.

All around the world, music and dance are used to celebrate several events, but few countries have Christmas dances, Austin said.

This year's "Christmas Around the World" program consists of almost 200 dancers performing 24 dances, Geslison said.

It will be a fast-paced show with a large menu of music and dance from around the world, Austin said.

Most dances last between three and nine minutes, he said.

Some of the dances in the program are from Hungary, Romania, the British Isles, America and China, Geslison said.

Each year a Hungarian dance called Hungarian Hopak ends the program, she said.

Two new dances will be appearing in this year's program, Geslison said.

One dance is a Scottish dance, the other dance is an Irish dance in the style of Riverdance, she said.

Preparation for this year's show started at the end of last year's show, Austin said.

However, practicing specific dances for the program didn't really get going until the students were placed onto teams at the beginning of the semester, he said.

The dancers consist of both new and seasoned dancers, Austin said.

In conjunction with the dancers is a folk music band, Geslison said.

However, the band does not play all the songs. Most of the songs they play are from America and Britain, she said.

Most of the costumes were bought in the country the dances come from, Geslison said.

If the costumes cannot be bought from the country then they are made here, she said.

A lot of time goes into researching so that the costumes are as authentic as possible, Geslison said.

If any fabric for the costume cannot be found in the United States, the fabric is purchased from the country in which the dance originates, she said.

A new set was designed for this year's program, Austin said.

BYU's yearly "Christmas Around the World" program has three showings, one tonight at 7:30 p.m. and two Saturday at p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Marriott Center.

Y student lands role in Spanish TV show

By Marie Williams
marie@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

When he was a chubby adolescent, a girl announced to Juan Olmo that he would never become an actor since only "thin and pretty" people were actors.

Today that girl might not be so quick to judge.

Olmo, 24, a junior from Puerto Rico, majoring in Spanish, was recently cast as the co-host of "Contigo en Mente" ("With You in Mind"), a weekly show designed to educate Utah's Spanish-speaking population about their new American home.

"A lot of people auditioned, but Juan was the only one with energy. He is very natural on camera," said Claudia Meija, co-host of "With You in Mind."

Besides holding down 14 credit hours and a job, Olmo is now promoting the new TV show. This involves photo shoots and a commercial, which means his face will soon be plastered on billboards in Salt Lake City.

"With You in Mind" has not begun filming, but Olmo is already basking in the warmth of a childhood dream fulfilled.

"I would watch the little kid eating a bowl of cereal on TV commercials. I wanted to be that kid," he said.

Dreams like that fade easily in small towns an ocean and language away from Hollywood, but Olmo said he was not discouraged despite skeptical parents and taunting peers.

"I've had to wait to get where I am, but I never gave up," he said.

However, the desire for fame and fortune is not what drives Olmo. He said he simply wants to entertain people.

Entertainment is important because it gives people an escape from their hectic lives, Olmo said.

Since he was four years old, Olmo shared his gift through involvement in local theater.

However, it was only six months ago that Olmo decided to accelerate his career by joining a talent agency called Creative Talent Management.

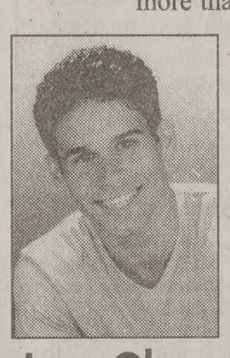
This move increased the number of auditions, but there were still trials to overcome, such as language difficulties, Olmo said.

Even though he is an eloquent English speaker, Olmo said that there were times when he did not know how to pronounce a word on a script.

"I'm still working the language," he said.

After several letdowns and a few small jobs, Olmo's dream to be on television was realized when he was cast as a featured extra on "Touched by an Angel."

That experience gave Olmo much more than a few seconds on TV. While on set, Olmo said he took his agent's advice to start networking and befriending other actors.



Juan Olmo

On the last day of filming, Olmo said a woman who was impressed by his friendly manners approached him and asked him to audition for "With You in Mind." Olmo got the part.

"It is a big break and it will help me get into the Spanish-television side, but this is just the beginning," he said.

Olmo is still taking acting lessons where he is mastering the technique of acting in front of a camera, which he said is a lot different from the stage acting he is accustomed to.

"An actor either gets better or gets worse. I want to get better," he said.

Olmo said he decided not to pursue an acting degree at BYU because he did not want to be graded on his passion in life.

Band splits; lead singer ventures solo career

By Bethany Park
bethany@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Jamen Brooks may not be a familiar name yet, but Clover should be for those that have been living in Utah the last seven years.

Brooks, the former guitarist and lead singer of Clover, is pursing a solo career.

Clover started in 1993 and has had a successful record in Utah, selling more than 20,000 CDs. The band opened for well-known national groups such as Beck, Fastball and Toad the Wet Sprocket.

The loss of Clover band members to other interests including, an LDS mission for drummer Brant Paulsen and law school for bass player Mitch Glende, gave Brooks the chance to experience his musical expression independently, said Corey Fox, manager for Brooks and Johnny B's.

Jamen Brooks

Brooks' first CD, entitled "Sleepyhead," has been in the works for a year. On Thursday he celebrated its release at Johnny B's.

The album has a mellow, soothing sound with intriguing lyrics and skillfully combined instrumental elements. His melodic voice carries deep tones with spurts of high and sometimes twangy expressions.

The lyrics of this album are very different from the flavor of Clover. They are more abstract and not necessarily about personal experience, Fox said.

Although he wrote the lyrics for "Cult of the Gun" and "Caged" in third person, some people have mistakenly interpreted it as Brooks' own experiences, he said.

"I took a different approach to writing about some disturbing incidences that happen so frequently now," Brooks said.

Inspired by sounds of The Beatles, some country components and especially Beck's "Mutation" album, his solo experiment has a unique sound with a familiar feel.

Traditional electric guitar is set off by the use of strings, woodwinds, keyboards, the mandolin and the banjo. Brooks wrote the songs and arranged them with John Hancock.

"John is just as much a credit to this album as I am. Recording this was more experimental than with Clover and we built the songs together," Brooks said.

Even though he is setting out on his own, Brooks hopes to play with the Clover clan again.

"I want to see this experience go as far as it can. I'm a family man with a 4-year-old son, so it would be a hard mix of lifestyles, but I think I could do it if I had control of my situation," Brooks said.

London in SLC: Christmas with Charles Dickens

By Marie Williams
marie@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

It may be the Dickens Christmas Festival, but there is no room for Scrooge or his modern-day counterparts at this Old English event designed to raise money for spina bifida, a disabling birth defect.

The festival, which takes place at the Utah Fair grounds in Salt Lake City, takes its guests on a journey through the sights and sounds of Dickens famed city.Chimney sweeps and young palace guards adorn the halls made to look like the streets of London.

However, the festival's main content is the crafts stores staffed by vendors dressed in 18th-century garb. From Australian Akubra hats to Hawaiian vases, their wares are not anything Dickens wrote about, but the selection is diverse and interesting.

The event is just one of many Dickens festivals worldwide sponsored by the Olde Worlde Historical Council, said festival chairwoman Shannon Hebdon.

Every year a different charity benefits from the proceeds of the festival, and this year it will be the Spina Bifida Association of Utah.

Hebdon said she knows a child who has this illness, which affects more babies than any other birth defect. The money raised will send children to Camp Kostopolus, a camp for those who suffer from spina bifida.

Festival chairwoman Leslie Hansen said the event is where people can have fun in an old-fashioned Christmas setting.

Ted Bartling, the owner of "King's Arms," said he's been at the festival for 17 years. He sells rubber-band guns that can hold up to 10 bands. The festival began 19 years ago at the Old Mill in Salt Lake City, he said.

Vendor Sharn Hoover of "Ye Dickens of London" has been selling various crafts at the festival for eight years.

"There is the Christmas spirit here and I don't sell at other fairs," she said.

Besides an array of items such as "your name on a grain of rice," African ornaments and letters written by Father Christmas, there is modern and old time entertainment.

Four stages feature dance troupes, talent contests and, of course, Dickens theater. The festivities take place all day.

Other activities include watching popcorn cooked in a large brass kettle and a carriage ride drawn by a towering Clydesdale.

The Dickens Festival is open from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays until Dec. 9. Admission is $6 for adults.

WC honors Cougar football

enson Beck
@newsroom.byu.edu
ports Writer

U football players were d the All-Mountain West e First Team on y.

Owen Pochman, punter nonds, linebacker Justin defensive end Setema all selected to the first

h led the Cougars with his year. He made 19 of goal attempts this year, a school record 56- ainst New Mexico. He on all 29 extra points. selected MWC Special ayer of the Week twice Lou Groza Collegiate er Award finalist for the aight year.

is one of the premier e've had here at BYU," ly retired head coach dwards. "He's worked hard since his arrival here and has become extremely accurate.

"He has the potential to be an outstanding NFL kicker."

Edmonds led the MWC with a 43.6 yards-per-punt average. He kicked punts of 50 yards or more 19 times this season and had the ball downed inside the 20-yard line 17 times.

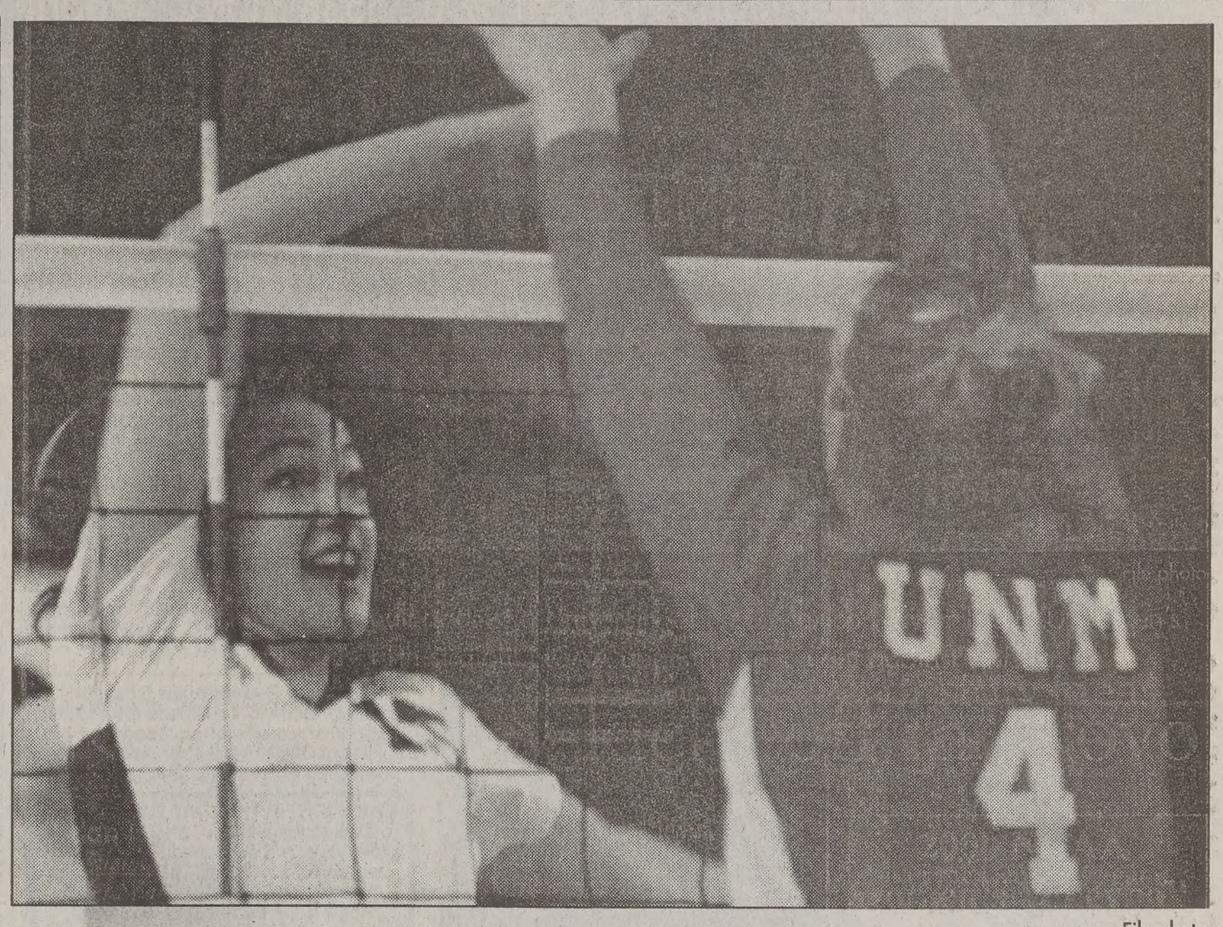
Ena led the team with 107 tackles on the season. The average of 8.9 a game ranks him fourth in the MWC. He had three sacks and forced three fumbles. He produced five games with double digit tackles and was selected MWC Player of the Week once.

Gali led BYU with 10 sacks. Eighteen of his tackles totaled a loss of 106 yards. Along with Ena, Gali contributed to a defensive line that ranks second in the MWC in rushing defense and allowed only an average of 7.8 second-half points per game.

Six Cougars were selected to the second team and four were listed as honorable mentions.

All-Mountain West Conference Football Team

Player	Pos.
Owen Pochman	PK
Setema Gali	DL
Justin Ena	LB
Aaron Edmonds	P
Second Team	
Jason Scukanec	OL
Tevita Ofahengaue	TE
Luke Staley	RB
Chris Hoke	DL
Hans Olsen	DL
Jared Lee	DB
Honorable Mention	
Ben Archibald, Margin Hooks, Aaron McCubbins, Ford Poston, Dustin Rykert	



File photo

Sunny Tonga, left, spikes the ball against a University of New Mexico player. The BYU women's volleyball team will make its 11th-straight NCAA appearance tonight against Hofstra.

eCats hungry for victory New Mexico desert

ey Blackmun
wsroom.byu.edu
Sports Writer

vo IceCats hockey team n their first out-of-state d of the season. The team on the University of ico tonight and tomor- Albuquerque, New

.m. this morning the tsarded a bus for New

ue team arrives around 5 will have about three prepare for its first game e Lobos.

rips are always a good experience for our id junior defender Ben "This should be a good o win and boost team

ceCats are hungry for win after posting a 1-5-0 begin the season.

had the BYU disease of ut slowly," said IceCats ch Tyler Pittman. "But have been practicing ell, so I expect some gs out of them."

exico appears to be the e for the IceCats' slow e Lobos are inexperi- d traditionally a team vo has had success dgson said.

looking forward to it, ve usually sweep them," r goalie Matt Denning. eCats have only limited e about the Lobos team

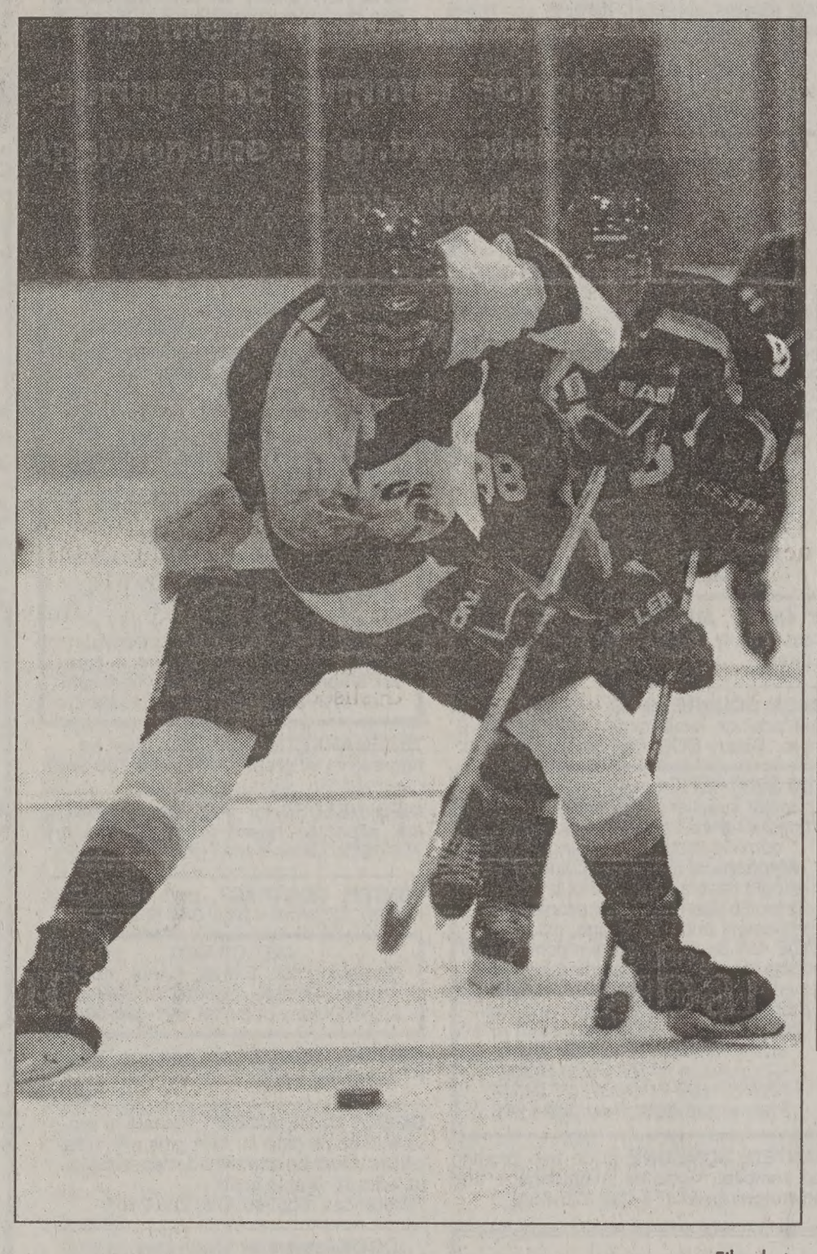
now the Lobos beat e same team that Provo ord its only win of the

paration for the road trip, has made some line and focused on its power man said.

made some experimen- es on the roster, so we to see how that goes," said.

to make sure our lines well so we can get fidence as a team."

ats have focused on their ay because they feel it one of their biggest



File photo

An IceCat forward fends off a Utah State defender earlier this season. The 'Cats are still looking for their first road victory.

weaknesses, Edgson said.

"I think we are starting to learn to play better together in power play situations," Edgson said.

In addition to working out on the ice, the team has worked on its conditioning by running every Tuesday night.

"Guys are starting to get into shape and get more confident in each other's abilities," Pittman said.

On top of being in better physical condition, the team is also injury free, Pittman said.

But the team will not be fatigue-free.

After the IceCats complete their final game against the Lobos on Saturday night, they will once again board a bus and return to Provo around 5 a.m. Sunday.

That will conclude a two-game road trip, with 20 hours of travel time, all over two days.

NCAA tourney kicks off in Provo

By Brian Hintze
brian@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

The BYU women's volleyball team begins its run to the championship tonight in the Smith Fieldhouse in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

"In the tournament you have to win, there is no tomorrow," BYU head coach Elaine Michaelis said.

The Cougars will face the Hofstra Pride, an automatic tournament qualifier from the American East Conference.

Hofstra finished their season with a 14 game winning streak to clinch their conference title.

Although Hofstra comes from a small conference, it has several weapons that could give the Cougars some trouble.

Hofstra's outside hitter Stefanie Rewitz, America East Conference Player of the Year, led the Pride with 469 kills and 427 digs on the year.

Rewitz also earned the America East Player of the Week six times this season.

But if it's credentials you are looking for, the Cougars can compete with anyone.

Nina Puikkonen led the team after being named the National Player of the Week, the only player in the nation to be this twice this season.

She is also the only player in the Mountain West Conference to be named conference Player of the Week four times this season.

Puikkonen, along with sister Karina, Sunny Tonga, and Jackie Bundy were also named to the All-Conference team.

They did all of this in the third toughest conference in the nation and on a team with only one senior.

"The team really believes in themselves and have not given up. They say 'we're going to do it.' It is a very compatible team," Michaelis said.

All of this helped the Cougars to win their own conference title and finish the season with an 11-game winning streak.

Because the NCAA is running this weekend's games BYU All-Sport cards will not be accepted.

Tickets for students and seniors will be $5 at the door and general admission will be $6.

"We're one of the top 15 teams in the country when it comes to attendance and that is mostly due to the students," Michaelis said.

"Because the NCAA is running things we can't give them price breaks. We work hard all year to earn the home court advantage and we hope they (students) will step up and still be there to support us."

If the Cougars win on Friday they will face the winner of Utah State-Missouri, which will be played Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Smith Fieldhouse.

2000 NCAA Women's Volleyball Tournament

BYU Glance:
No. 3 seed in Central Region
11th straight NCAA appearance
19th overall appearance

Also in the Central Region:
No. 2 Arizona (25-4)
No. 4 Ohio (24-6)

At the Smith Fieldhouse:
Tonight
5 p.m.
Utah State (21-9) vs.
Missouri (24-6)

7 p.m.
BYU (24-6) vs.
Hofstra (23-10)

Saturday
7 p.m.
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Winner Game 2

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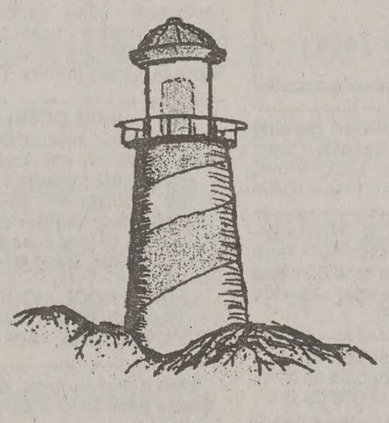

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Spring and Summer 2001
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JANUARY 15, 2001
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For a reliability report on a specific company, check first with your local Better Business Bureau.

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1-800-456-3907

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300-Help Wanted

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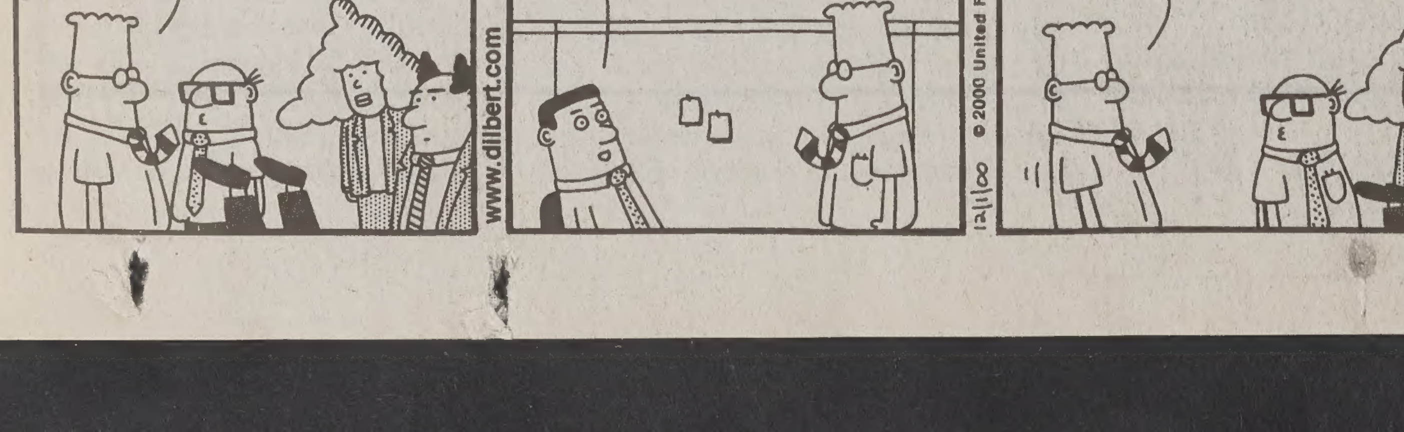

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Furnished/Unfurnished Apts.
December 4-8
2 lines
1 week
$10
$5 each additional line
Deadline is Friday, December 1, 2pm
For more information, call 378-7409 or 378-2897
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Airline, radio station join to fly kids to 'North Pole'

By Meghan Riding
meghan@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Sixty children will be visiting the "North Pole" Saturday to see Santa Claus.

Radio station Fever 107.9 and Southwest Airlines are sponsoring a mock flight to the North Pole to fulfill the Christmas wishes of underprivileged children, said Nicole Rasmussen, account manager at FJCandN Public Relations in Salt Lake City.

"This will give some children, who are underprivileged because of illness or hardship a better Christmas and a good holiday," Rasmussen said.

The 60 children will fly in a plane Saturday morning for 20 minutes and then disembark at the Air National Guard Hangar, which will be decorated as the North Pole, Rasmussen said.

At the North Pole, the children will visit with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, she said.

Local toy stores donated toys so each child will leave with a Christmas gift, Rasmussen said.

"The toys donated are quality toys from this year's line. They will be toys kids really asked for instead of leftovers from last year," she said.

Rob Olson, program director for Fever 107.9, said he saw similar events in other cities and wanted to bring it to Utah.

"I thought it would be something different and unique for the valley," Olson said.

Thirty children were randomly drawn from letters sent to the radio station and the rest of the children were chosen by six local charities, Olson said.

The children will be able to visit with Santa Claus, see magicians and make crafts, he said.

"This will be a very memorable experience and is a unique opportunity. It will be an experience the children have never had before," Olson said.

Southwest Airlines and the Utah Air National Guard have both helped in making the flight happen, he said.

"It's a great opportunity to reach out to the community," Olson said.

Lt. Col. David Thomas, community manager and public affairs director for the Utah Air National Guard, said providing the hangar for the North Pole was a way they could serve the community.

"As part of the community, we try to interact with the people, so we wanted to do this," Thomas said.

Luana Perez of Salt Lake City, said her 6-year-old son Leo, who is almost in remission from cancer, is looking forward to his trip to the North Pole.

"Because of his illness, he had to grow-up fast and put up with things, like taking lots of medicine, that other kids don't have to.

"This will be one of the happy things from his childhood that he's going to remember," Perez said.

Leo has seen movies depicting the North Pole and is anxious to see what it might really be like, she said.

Since Leo's sickness, events like the flight show how much the community cares, she said.

"I think this is neat because there is so much negative in the world and it gives kids hope that not everything is bad," Perez said.

Students indifferent about SCAMP

By Anne-Marie Mickelsen
mickelsen@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

BYU students either don't care or don't like it.

That's the message BYUSA said it is getting about the proposed South Campus Area Master Plan.

BYUSA conducted a two-week advertising campaign to solicit feedback from students about the project that would create a student village with high-density housing and commercial stores.

The SCAMP committee has received a total of 20 e-mail messages as a result of the campaign.

"Students are indifferent. It's discouraging that students don't take an interest," said John Bennion, chair of the Student Advisory Council.

The feedback from students has been mixed, he said.

"We have an outspoken group of students who like houses. They like the idea of being in charge of the house and decorating it the way they want to," Bennion said.

> **"Students are indifferent. It's discouraging that students don't take an interest."**
> — John Bennion, SAC chair

BYUSA is trying to make students aware of SCAMP because it may potentially have an impact on them, said Rachel Welton, BYUSA vice president of public relations.

However, Welton said it could affect future generations more than current BYU students because the city has a 20-year plan in mind for the project.

Welton said construction might begin sooner than that, but final completion will probably take up to 20 years.

BYUSA's SCAMP committee is comprised of Bennion, Welton, student body president Bill Brady and student body vice president Sarah Sandberg.

"The purpose of the committee is to help educate students about SCAMP and solicit feedback from students," Bennion said.

Prior to the ad and the Web site, BYUSA conducted an e-mail survey in conjunction with the Office of Assessment.

"We got a pretty low response rate — 10 percent," Bennion said.

He said BYUSA is discussing plans to conduct a phone survey in the future.

For more information on SCAMP, visit scamp.byu.edu.

DIVINE COMEDY

The date on Wed's ad was incorrect. The show is on Dec. 1st not Dec. 7th

"Best of" Show
Last show of the year

Our best skits from this semester and all time.

Most politicians promise no legal action will ensue if you go.

Friday, Dec. 1
8 p.m. and 10 p.m., 151 Tanner Building
$3 a ticket, available pre-sale at
3326 B WSC. Get tickets in advance.
Shows Usually Sell Out Early!

Utah doctor offers new laser, making eye surgery less risky

By Dee Giles
dee@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

A big concern for prospective lasik surgery patients may no longer be an issue for Utahns.

The Food and Drug Administration recently approved a new laser that tracks the movement of the eye during the surgery, which can prevent problems that arise when the eye moves during the operation.

This new development, called ActiveTrak, allows the eye to move without causing problems, said Nancy Lilya, the communications director at the Lasik Center of Utah in Orem.

On Thursday the Lasik Center of Utah unveiled their new VISX Star S3 system, and now has the only eye tracking system in the state.

Jay Clark, a laser vision surgeon, said prior to this advancement, patients were forced to keep their eye focused throughout the surgery. Any movements could reduce the effectiveness of the surgery.

Eye movement has been a significant worry for patients, he said.

"That's probably been patient's greatest fear," Clark said.

Peter Ivie, 23, a senior from Provo, majoring in computer science, said he tried to keep his eyes focused on a red dot, but it was difficult.

"I had trouble telling if I was moving my eye, or if the red dot was jumping around. It seemed like it kept moving all over the place," Ivie said.

This eye movement could cause the laser surgery to be applied somewhere other than the center of the eye, Clark said. The result could be that the patient sees halos, glares or multiple images after the surgery.

> **"It would have been comforting to know that I didn't have to worry."**
> — Peter Ivie, BYU senior

Ivie said the concern that he could mess up his surgery by moving his eye is something he could have done without.

"It would have been comforting to know that I didn't have to worry," Ivie said.

Some of the patients who were the first to be operated on with this new laser agreed this removed some stress for them.

Debbie Arnell, from Cedar Hills, Utah County, said she was excited to be getting the surgery done, especially with the new laser.

"The only thing I was nervous about was the movement, but I guess that's changed today," she said.

The ActiveTrak may be the first laser eye tracker to come to Utah, but it is not the only eye tracker out on the market.

Another manufacturer, Autonomous, also has a FDA approved eye tracker, but the trackers differ somewhat, Clark said.

The Autonomous laser has a radar eye tracker adopted from military applications, Clark said. It works in two dimensions.

The VISX eye tracker was developed specifically for the human eye and tracks in three dimensions, Clark said.

Soldier killed despite cease-fire

Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India — Gunmen killed a paramilitary soldier Thursday in the troubled state of Kashmir on an otherwise quiet third day of a cease-fire that India has declared.

The killing came as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Karl Inderfurth, on a two-day visit to New Delhi, told reporters that Washington was hopeful the unilateral cease-fire would lead to negotiations over the region claimed by both India and Pakistan.

"We believe that there's a growing constituency for peace in Kashmir," said Inderfurth, who met with Foreign Ministry officials. "The tragedy there is well known and if peace can broaden, if there can be a reduction in the level of violence ... we hope that this (cease-fire) will take hold and expand," he said.

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has ordered Indian troops to halt offensive operations during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, such as house-to-house searches and attacks on militants, although self-defense is permitted.

The 14 Pakistan-based guerrilla groups who say they are fighting to secede from India have rejected the cease-fire offer. Many said they would step up attacks during the holy month.

Twelve people were killed Tuesday, the first day of the cease-fire. But officials say Kashmir has generally been calm.

"Compared to the routine attacks that take place in Kashmir, there has actually been a lull in violence," said Ashok Bhan, Kashmir's inspector-general of police.

"While we have stopped offensive combat operations, we have identified our vulnerable positions — stopping the infiltration of militants, protecting defense bases and providing security to the minorities," Bhan said.

Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

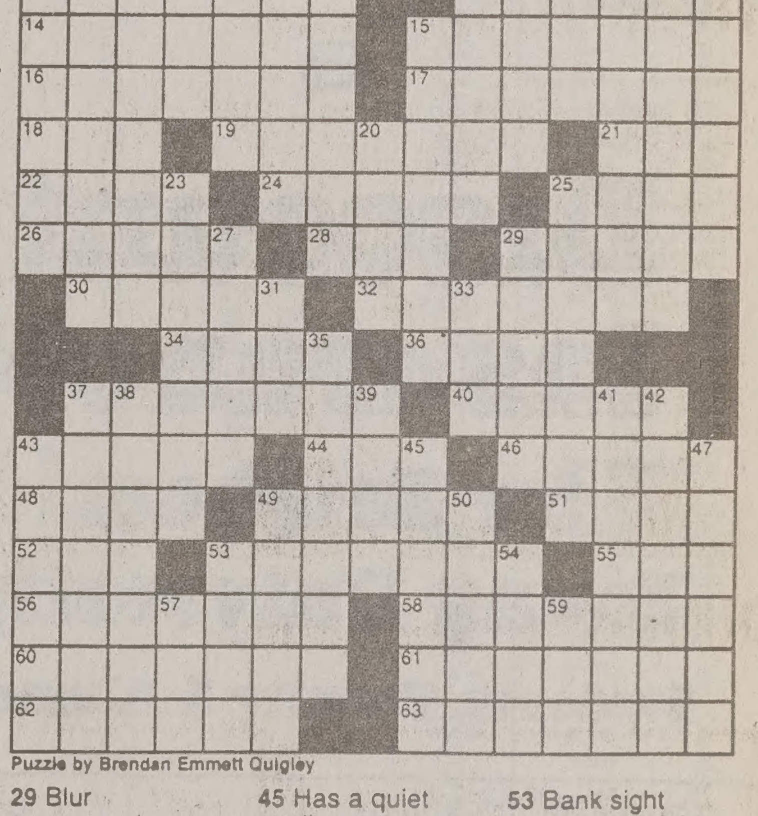
No. 1020

ACROSS

1 Adam Dalgliesh's creator
8 Notch cut into a board
14 Blast furnace input
15 Target of a deadly attack
16 I may be replaced by it
17 Encouraged by others, in a way
18 Visa statement abbr.
19 Makes a scene?
21 "___-ching!"
22 Not rouge
24 Tie
25 It requires 32 cards
26 "Musée des Beaux Arts" poet
28 Mozart's "L'Oca ___ Cairo"
29 Drunken
30 Obsolescent communication
32 Paleontological study
34 Some club members
36 Jazz bit
37 Bit of gunpowder
40 Vegetable sponge
43 Heart's-ease
44 It may be corny
46 ___ body (cell part)
48 Old character
49 Crusade
51 "My Heart Will Go On" singer
52 Word before while
53 Shacks
55 Spain's Victoria Eugenia, familiarly
56 Grand master?
58 Strands, perhaps
60 Direction for a 56-Across
61 Stunned
62 Approvals
63 Company in a prominent 2000 lawsuit

DOWN

1 Amazonian menace: Var.
2 Classless one?
3 It might be done 17-Across
4 Suffix with Shakespeare
5 It's found in a foundry
6 Gen. Rommel
7 Fume
8 No big babies
9 "What ___!"
10 Frost victim
11 Less cheery
12 She never reached Howland Island
13 Place for signatures
15 Facetious
20 Inc. reader, perhaps
23 Opener
25 Crab, e.g.
27 Poet Sachs
29 Blur
31 Jaguar model
33 Disney's Cruella De ___
35 Oversupply
37 Bully?
38 The planets and others
39 Warm Alpine wind
41 Charges
42 Go through hell
43 Settle beforehand
45 Has a quiet dinner, say
47 Comparatively cockamamie
49 Is 15-Down
50 Andrews of the L.P.G.A.
53 Bank sight
54 Cake composition
57 "If I Ruled the World" rapper
59 Logophile's love: Abbr.



Puzzle by Brendan Emmett Quigley

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	L	E	A		D	A	T	E	R		C	O	M	B
R	E	A	D		A	B	O	V	E		O	B	I	E
I	N	T	E	R	N	E	T	A	D	D	R	E	S	S
M	O	S	Q	U	I	T	O			H	A	S	T	E
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R	A	F	A	E	L		L	A	I	R	S			
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B	E	R	E	T			S	H	E	R	I	F	F	S
E	N	G	L	I	S	H	T	E	X	T	B	O	O	K
R	I	O	T		T	O	I	L	E		L	O	R	I
T	A	N	S		S	E	R	F	S		E	L	K	S

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute).

Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

Ricks College plans replacement for Spori

Students reminisce its history

By Emily Smurthwaite
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Writing Coach

As the smoke clears over the rubble of the Jacob Spori Building, plans are being prepared for the future of the hole it left.

The historic Ricks College building caught fire as it was being torn down early Wednesday morning. A new building, which will be named after Spori, will be constructed in the place where the original stood.

Ron Bennett, the Ricks College Communications Department chairman, is on the planning committee that oversees decisions about the new Spori building. He said construction should begin in June or July 2001 and should finish in 2003.

"We're not trying to replicate it. In other words, the Spori is dead, but it (the new building) will be true to the integrity of the first building. It will be reminiscent of the old Spori," Bennett said.

He said the plans for the new building were almost completed when President Gordon B. Hinckley announced that Ricks would become a four-year college.

The committee then amended the plans so the building could better accommodate a four-year school, Bennett said. A basement was added, along with additional classrooms and office space.

The top of the building will mostly be a glass exterior, he said. There will be columns in the front, like the original Spori. Some of the rock from the old building will be used as well.

"It's important to the administration to make it similar to the old building," he said. "It will look like the old Spori and feel like the old Spori, but it will have more state-of-the-art teaching facility."

As plans for the new building are prepared, those who have close ties to the original Spori are preserving their memories.

Allen Palmer, BYU associate professor of communications and undergraduate program coordinator, worked in the Spori for 10 years.

He said the building was not only a logo for Ricks, but also a landmark.

"My office was on the first floor; I saw the world for 10 years looking out the window of the Spori," Palmer said. "So many people went through it. A lot of people had memories of that building."

He said it was a wonderful old building, with an interesting personality.

Although the building was old, it wasn't demolished easily.

"They tried to tear it down late at night so it wouldn't get a lot of attention, but since it caught on fire it got more attention that it would have gotten anyway," Palmer said.

Students additionally are feeling the loss of the building.

At 4 a.m. Wednesday morning, Taralyn Trost, an editor for the Ricks College campus newspaper, arrived on-campus to watch the Spori come down.

Trost, 19, a sophomore from Sandy, Salt Lake County, said she went to watch the destruction with her friend who was reporting on the event. They stayed there until the last wall fell at 8 a.m.

"The Spori was such a big part of my college experience," she said. "I think the fire was a more dignified way for the Spori to go down — it wouldn't go down without a fight."

Chris Parkinson/Daily Universe

Rubble from the Jacob Spori Building on the Ricks College campus smolders after it burned down early Wednesday morning. The LDS Church is preparing to construct a new building to be named after Spori in its place.

Trost said the Spori had a different, special spirit in it.

"I hope the new building will capture the same spirit. It just won't quite be the same, but I think the administration will try and do their best to recapture the spirit," she said.

To some, this signifies the beginning of the transformation to BYU-Idaho.

John Mortensen, 22, a senior from South Jordan, majoring in communications studies, worked and had most of his classes in the Spori last year. He said the Spori was his second home at Ricks.

"The communication students who knew that the Spori would come down, had mixed feelings. We were sad because it was so old, but we were also excited and happy about the new building," Mortensen said.

"The change of Ricks to BYU-Idaho and the building of the new Spori will both be gradual," he said. "The destruction of the Spori is kind of a major step towards a new campus; it will be interesting to see what happens to the football stadium and practice fields."

Aubrey Oman, 18, a freshman from Draper, Salt Lake County, majoring in journalism, said the communications students at Ricks College are excited and sad about the transitions.

"The burning down of the Spori caused grief for some people, because of all they memories they had there," she said. "But we are excited for the opportunity for our department to grow and become well-known."

Democrat Matheson receives support across the party lines

By Doug Anderson
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NewsNet Staff Writer

To some, the phrase "Utah Democrat" seems like an oxymoron.

That's a perception Congressman-elect Jim Matheson would be altogether too happy to break.

Hailing from a family of Utah Democrats in which his father, Scott Matheson, served as governor of the state, Jim Matheson said he learned that public service is a critical part of life.

Jim Matheson

But running for Congress was something he had not planned to do until a little over a year ago.

"It was certainly something I thought about," Matheson said. "But the variables have to fall your way to even be able to run. I didn't want to plan my life around when I would run."

Fortunately for Matheson, the pieces came together in a positive way. During the 2nd District race, Matheson survived what he calls "deceptive" and "mean-spirited" campaign tactics from Republican opponent Derek Smith.

Matheson said he opted to take the opposite route, deciding to focus his campaign instead around his personal qualifications for the job and his political beliefs.

"I think people wanted a reason to vote for someone, and that's what we choose to do," Matheson said.

Eric Leavitt, a longtime friend who spoke to Matheson every day during the campaign, said the congressman-elect overcame negative attitudes about his party affiliation and Republican campaign rhetoric to win the election.

Leavitt, a Republican and brother of Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt, said Utahns looked beyond the party to vote for the man.

"Would Jim Matheson have won had Derek Smith run a perfect campaign? Yes, he would," Leavitt said. "For a Democrat, to win by 15 points is a landslide."

Matheson, who considers himself a moderate on the political spectrum, said during the campaign he would be willing to work across party lines — in essence bringing people together on the issues.

Perhaps his reputation preceded him. The tenderfoot politician has already been elected by fellow newcomer Democrats to be a liaison to the Republican freshmen.

Leavitt says the party election is a testament to Matheson's desire to work with everyone.

"He's not easily sucked into the rhetoric that generally results from people being polarized," Leavitt said. "He derives his stands on the issues in a very thoughtful and systematic way."

Another longtime friend and work associate, Mike Smith, said Matheson is open-minded and eager to serve constituents.

"He has a sense of responsibility to represent everybody, even though he may not agree with them," he said.

Mike Smith said the congressman-elect's desire to serve others was even evident during the summer barbecues Matheson held for friends and neighbors.

While adults and children tend to drift into different areas of the yard, Matheson will make sure the children are set up to play croquet before cooking the food, Mike Smith said.

"Jim is a genuinely nice guy," Mike Smith said. "He is a true friend to many."

Nice guy or not, Matheson will always remember his roots and will not make apologies for them.

"My family has a long history of being Democrats," Matheson said. "That's who I am."

WWII camp to be preserved

By Jacob Crosby
jacob@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

A group seeking to preserve a World War II Japanese-American internment camp in central Utah may soon receive federal help.

In a Nov. 9 memo, President Bill Clinton directed Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt to propose administrative and legislative action to help preserve Japanese-American internment sites.

"The internment of Japanese-Americans was a tragic episode in American history," Clinton wrote in the memo.

By preserving these sites, more opportunities for the public to learn about the internment would be provided, he said.

The Topaz internment camp, near Delta, Millard County, is one of ten camps the Interior Department will study over the next 60 days.

"This announcement is exactly what we have been working for," said Jane Beckwith, the journalism teacher at Delta High School who began the movement to preserve Topaz.

The Topaz project started in 1992 when her journalism class was too large to cover school news alone, she said.

"My students were arguing about who covered which school activity, so we decided to branch out into the community. We found Topaz and I became fascinated with it," she said.

Beckwith's fascination with the camp has produced significant results, including the formation of the Topaz Museum Board.

The Board has purchased more than 400 acres of the Topaz site, refurbished the recreation hall, and gained distinction as a Save America's Treasures project — all within the last eight years, she said. Much of the project's support has come from outside sources, including the San Francisco area and the Japanese-American community, Beckwith said.

"I think it is important for the Japanese-American community and the local community to come together," she said.

The local community has been slow to embrace the Topaz project because it represents a sensitive subject, Beckwith said.

"There is no reason for local residents to feel embarrassed, since they had nothing to do with what happened at Topaz," she said.

The Topaz internment camp was named after a nearby mountain. The first Japanese were moved into the camp in September 1942.

At its peak, Topaz held 9,408 people in barracks of tarpaper and wood, according to an exhibit at the University of Utah entitled "Images of Topaz."

"The Topaz camp represents such a complicated time in American democracy, but it is a time that needs to be discussed so we do not forget what happened there," Beckwith said.

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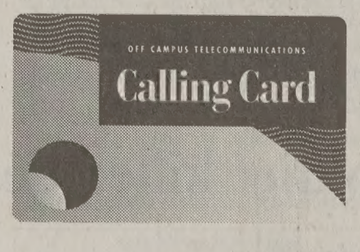

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Buying the right gift might mean a gift card

By Jacob Crosby
jacob@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Long lines, unwanted presents and tired sales clerks — all common scenes when returning holiday gifts.

Retailers are doing more than ever this year to avoid the stereotypical chaos that follows Christmas.

"We have a very liberal return policy," said Ron Rhoads, store manager for J.C. Penney at the Provo Towne Centre.

J.C. Penney's goal the week after Christmas is to take care of everybody, he said.

Stores like J.C. Penney and Gap are pushing gift cards to help shoppers avoid buying the wrong gifts.

Pilar Todd, assistant manager for Gap at the Provo Towne Centre, said more people are buying gift cards this year to avoid long return lines.

She said her biggest piece of advice is for shoppers to be patient when returning gifts.

"Expect that people are going to return things and prepare to wait," Todd said.

Those who shop at major retailers may not have to be as patient as those who shop at specialty stores.

There is a definite advantage to shopping at major retail outlets, especially for students, Rhoads said.

> "Most students will be in some other city when they want to return gifts. With major retailers, they can return purchases at any outlet in the country."
>
> — Ron Rhoads, J.C. Penney manager

"Most students will be in some other city when they want to return gifts. With major retailers, they can return purchases at any outlet in the country," he said.

Although return policies are usually the same within major retail outlets, shoppers should still familiarize themselves with store policies.

At Gap and other major stores, customers can read the return policy on the back of their receipt.

"Whenever people have questions, we always refer them to their receipt," Todd said.

She said shoppers should be particularly careful when buying clothes. Being careful means that customers should make sure they like what they received before cutting off the tags.

New clothes or not, holiday shoppers can expect a hassle-free Christmas — as long as they shop by the rules.

Figure it out

The New York Times Crossword puzzle

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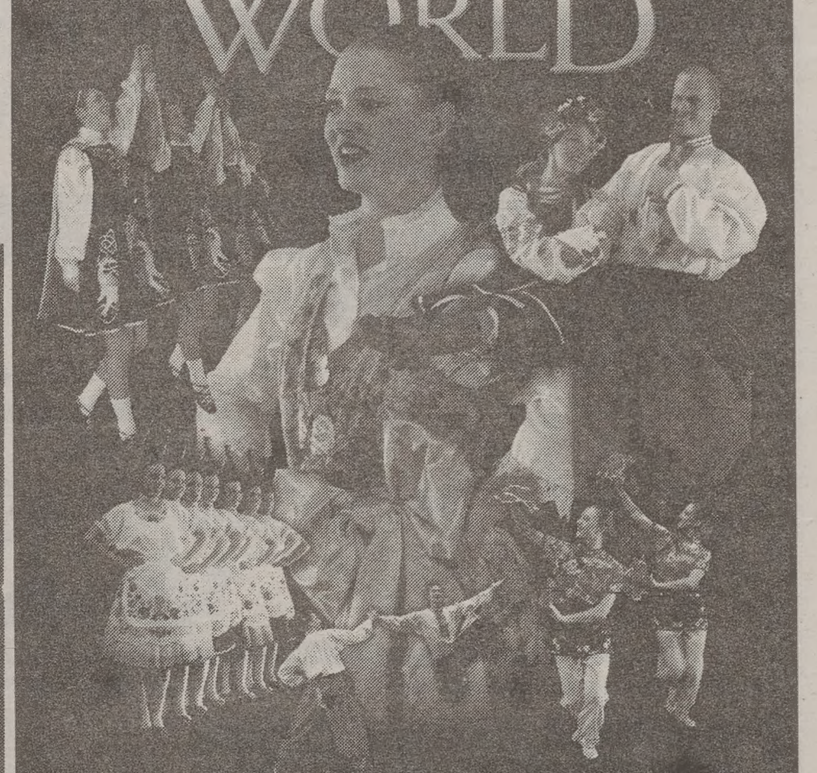
CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD



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Service opportunities abound during holidays

By Scarlett M. Barger
scarlett@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Students can make a difference in the lives of others by taking some time to serve.

Students naturally want to help others more in December because of the Christmas spirit, said Yancy Zimmerman, 18, a freshman from Sandpoint, Idaho.

The Jacobsen Center for Service and Learning provides service opportunities for Christmas and all year long, he said.

Students who want to stay on campus for service projects can help put together finals week survival kits from December 4 through December 6, said Todd Hendricks of the BYU Alumni Association.

Zimmerman said there are several programs that allow students to serve in the community.

Through the Access program, BYU students can be role models for children.

The Impact program accomplishes a similar purpose, but matches BYU students with high school students, he said.

Project Read, where BYU students can teach adults how to read and write, is another effective way to help the community, he said.

Liz Eyring, 21, a junior majoring in early childhood education from Bountiful, Davis County, said local care centers have asked for students to visit the elderly.

Provo City has also requested assistance in decorating city streets and parks, she said.

The Sub for Santa program provides food and gifts for needy families, said Kristin Smith, 20, a junior majoring in community health from Arlington, Texas.

The program is sponsored through BYUSA, she said. Students can contact coordinator Heather Sandberg or e-mail the program volunteers at subforsanta@byu.edu, Smith said.

If students would rather give a gift to just one person, they can participate in the Angel Tree program, she said.

In this program, children fill out a card with information on what they want for Christmas and hang the card on a Christmas tree, she said. For more information, students can go to the Angel Tree in the ZCMI shopping center, she said.

The Food and Care Coalition and the Salvation Army could use help as well, but students should call the organizations first to find out what their needs are, Smith said.

BYU students are usually very helpful with service, but it's important to keep serving year-round, she said.

Sometimes students cannot continue projects because they must go home between school term changes, but when possible, they should strive to keep their commitments, she said.

For more information on projects and opportunities to serve students can visit the Jacobsen Center in 2010 WSC.

Service Programs for Christmas

Access
Angel Tree
Food and Care Coalition
Impact
Jacobsen Center for Service and Learning
Project Read
Provo City
Salvation Army
Sub for Santa

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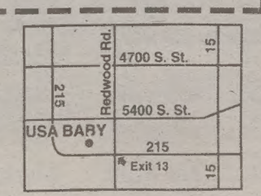

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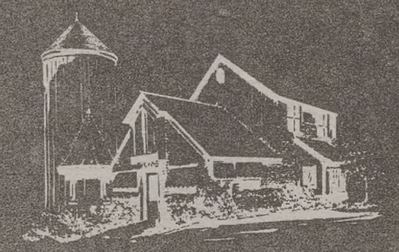

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GEMOLOGISTS & JEWELER ON THE PREMISES

Gifts of love for Christmas: a long tradition

By Irinna Schwenke
ijs@email.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

'Tis better to give than to receive...but who came up with this famous notion anyway?

With Christmas right around the corner, the tradition of giving and receiving gifts is here.

In a hunt to find the history of gift giving, several Web sites deal with the history of Christmas, the annual ordeal of gift giving and famous Christmas customs.

There were various explanations on how the practice of gift giving originated.

One theory goes back to the Roman festivals of Saturnalia and Calends. The very first gifts were simple items such as twigs from a sacred grove as good luck emblems.

Soon that escalated to food, small items of jewelry, candles and statues of gods.

To early Christians, gift giving was a pagan holiday and therefore severely frowned upon. However, people would not part with it.

Some justification was found in the original gift giving of the Magi, and from figures such as St. Nicholas.

According to Web site www.ridgenet.org, gift giving was accepted by the Middle Ages.

Another Web site, under the heading, History of Christmas, at www.history.org/life/xmas/customs.htm, another theory is presented.

The theory was that English shopkeepers of the 18th century placed ads noting items appropriate as holiday gifts. Cash tips, little books and sweets were given by parents to children.

The practice of gift giving worked in one direction. Children received gifts, but did not participate in giving back to their superiors.

So how did the exchange of gifts from dependents to superiors begin?

Good old American influences.

Both 20th century influence and diligent marketing has made giving gifts the norm.

Now that the tradition of gift giving is a two-way affair, it

and children during the Christmas season.

Long lines, annoying children and messy shelves typify Christmas shopping across the country.

With this in mind, its no surprise that in some Germanic languages closely related to English, the word gift also means poison.

There is a history of gifts of tainted food or other articles being used to poison their recipients.

The association of the two words may be a shrewd psychological insight that gifts can lacerate as well as delight.

Here is an example.

Unlike other gift-giving events in society, such as birthdays or weddings, Christmas celebrations involve the simultaneous exchange of presents.

Because gifts can be an expression of the actual or desired relationship between individuals, there is a sense in which Christmas giving requires people to make an annual assessment of where they stand with friends and family.

The trick is to ensure that these assessments will be mutual.

The horror of buying someone a gift that is too cheap, while he or she buys something too expensive, typifies the Christmas season.

But is that really what is important?

Perhaps the practice of gift giving did originate in Rome or Europe, but there is another place that sometimes goes unnoticed – Bethlehem.

After Jesus Christ was born, wise men came to look for the newborn Savior. They brought with them three gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Today, in honor of friends and family, gifts are exchanged to honor them for what they do during the year.

Gifts are not the essence of Christmas. It is better to give than to receive. It feels good to share gifts with others.

Whether the gifts are cheap or expensive, it is important to remember that gifts should be given in the true spirit of Christmas.

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Holiday shoppers hunt for Playstation 2

By Lee Champion
lee@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

With Christmas shopping, timing is everything and the way the hottest item this season is selling, timing really is everything.

One year it was Tickle-Me-Elmo, another it was the Furby or beanie babies. So what is burning up the store shelves in Christmas 2000?

Video games. More specifically, a new video game system called Sony Playstation 2.

The Sony Playstation 2 has now been in the U.S. market since Nov. 26th, and currently cannot be found in any store. It is sold out everywhere and to find one, a shopper has to keep his or her eyes constantly open as well as being patient.

Amazon.com has received three shipments since Playstation 2 arrived. All three shipments sold out within 5 minutes, with the first selling out in 30 seconds, according to the Web site.

There is even a Playstation 2 news watch on the video game page that has updates as to when the next shipment will come in.

Suggested retail price for the system is $299, if found. Playstation 2's can be located on online auctions but for a higher price, and some desperate people are willing to pay that price.

On eBay, the prices range from $500 to $1,200. On Excite auctions, the bidding prices began at $350.

One bidder actually bid $10,571 for the video-game system on Excite auctions.

Bryan Durrant, a supervisor at Toys-R-Us in Orem, said that every day they have customers come in asking for the Playstation 2.

The same customers come in every day because the store does not know when the Playstation 2 shipments will come, he said.

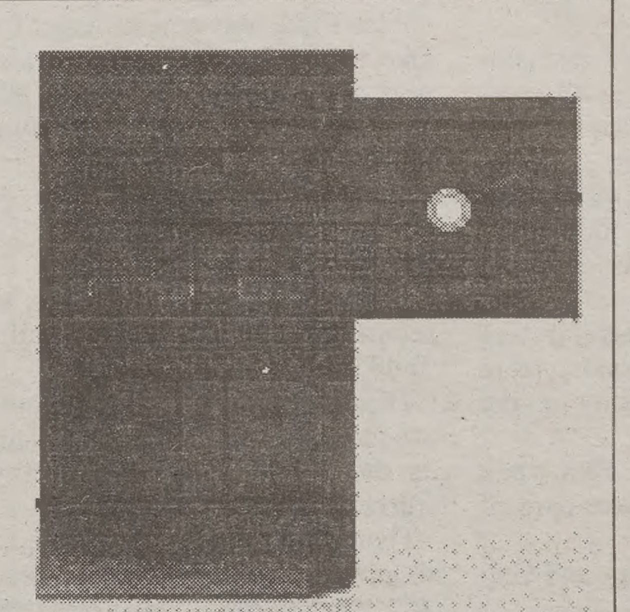
So far Toys-R-Us has received three shipments and each of them has sold out in 30 to 45 minutes, Durrant said.

Jeremy Cuellar, 22, a junior from Danville, Calif., majoring in psychology, waited in line from 7 a.m. to midnight the following day, outside of the Orem Wal-Mart to be one of the first to have the Playstation 2, he said.

"There were only 18 systems and they went to the first 18 that were in line," Cuellar said.

People would try to get in the line after it was full, so the 18 of us became a team to protect our future Playstation 2 and our spots in line, he said.

"Wal-Mart would come out every hour to check on us and make sure we were still there, and if we were not, we lost our place in line, meaning we lost our Playstation 2," Cuellar said.



Sony Playstation 2 is jumping off the shelves this Christmas. Buyers are stalking stores and bidding in auctions for the video game system.

Courtesy www.sony.com

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Gift certificates:

to give or not to give

By Jeffrey Blackmun
jeffrey@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

Gift certificates may be the perfect gift idea for many people, or it may be just what a loved one despises.

The love and hate relationship with gift certificates may stem from the many types of gift certificates available and the givers inability to put some thought into the gift.

"Gift certificates are a symbol of freedom and if they have any negative associations they should be done away with," said Jake Lindsay, 24, a senior from Beaverton, Ore., majoring in geology.

Lindsay said his favorite gift certificate was to the mall where he was able to use it at any store of his choice.

"I love gift certificates because they give me more leeway," Lindsay said.

While some people like the versatility of gift certificates, others view them as a gift that requires little or no thought.

"When people give gift certificates it shows that they don't have any creativity," said Rebecca Maxfield, 23, a BYU graduate from Centerville. "It's kind of a default gift for people who don't know what to get you."

The best type of gift certificates are the kind that people have taken thought to give, Maxfield said.

Eric Bryan, 22, a junior from Potomac, Md., majoring in sociology, said that gift certificates can be impersonal, but for some people they may be perfect.

"When you can't think of anything for someone who has everything, gift certificates are a good idea," Bryan said. "They're not limited to any one thing, so you can choose."

While most gift certificates are easy to use, some caution should be exercised before they are purchased.

When purchasing gift certificates, it is important to inquire if it is valid at multiple locations or if it expires, Maxfield said.

It is also important to think of the versatility of the gift and how it will suit the recipient.

"I love gift certificates, but for some people they're not the right thing," Lindsay said. "Certificates to the mall, or ones that are good for dates or food are always a good idea."

Remember as the Christmas season approaches that gift certificates can be a fabulous solution to satisfy the most difficult people to shop for. But, they can also be a terrible disappointment for people who want that personal touch.

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Online shopping saves time, effort

By John Crosby
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NewsNet Staff Writer

No long lines, no wrapping hassles, no trips to the mall — just a few of the benefits of online shopping.

More and more Americans are turning to their computers rather than their neighborhood department store for holiday gifts.

In fact, online companies are expected to make over $28 billion during this year's holiday season alone — a significant jump from last year.

Cramer, a senior from Salt Lake City, majoring in computer science, said shopping online is infinitely better than battling crowds at the mall.

"Shopping on the Web offers better selection, better prices and more convenience," Cramer said.

He also said online shopping makes it easier to be secretive around Christmas time.

"There are no shopping bags for me to bring home and to try and hide," Cramer said.

Don Carruth, a senior from Palos Verdes, Calif., majoring in finance, said online shopping takes away a fun holiday tradition.

"Half the fun of Christmas shopping is going to the mall and listening to Christmas music as you stroll past stores and look at window displays," he said.

Erik Templin, a junior from Denver, Colo., majoring in marketing communications, said he is hesitant to try online shopping after a bad experience he had in November.

Templin bought a car through eBay, an online auction site, and only drove it 50 miles before the transmission went out.

"I did my homework before I bought the car and could not find anything wrong. It was a great deal on a great car," Templin said.

Online shoppers should make sure everything they buy has some kind of return policy or warranty, he said.

"Unless something dramatic happens, my online-shopping experience is over," Templin said.

Regardless of potential problems, shopping on the Web will continue to increase with popular stores like Target, K-Mart and Wal-Mart bringing their marketing muscle online this holiday season.

"Online shopping is only going to get better. If I want the holiday spirit while I shop, I'll turn up the Christmas music on my computer," Cramer said.

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We've Got the Gifts

Bizarre gifts lend laughs and entertainment

Two students laugh at a gift during Christmas 1999. Bizarre and crazy gifts can be fun and memorable.

File photo

By Shannon McOmber
shannon@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

No one likes to admit it, but everyone has one. Crazy Aunt Lydia. Great Grandma Joyce. Eccentric Uncle Harry.

There's one in every family. And they always seem to provide you with not only some entertaining yet slightly embarrassing stories, but also with that Christmas gift that never seemed to find its way onto your Christmas list, but always managed to be under the tree on Christmas morning just for you.

Tim Goodman, 24, a pre-education major from Yorba Linda, Calif., fondly refers to his yearly Christmas-gift oddities as "The Publisher's Clearing House Christmas."

Every year Goodman's grandmother proudly supplies each of her grandchildren with a rare and priceless gift she has received in the mail, compliments of one of her many sweepstakes subscriptions.

crazy ▸ *page 13*

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Christmas albums vary in popularity among Utahns

By Cameron Sawyer
sawyer@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

When shopping for Christmas albums, making the right choice can be perplexing with all of the albums to choose from.

The choices can be as diverse as "Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir," to "Sleighed: The Other Side of Christmas," with explicit lyrics.

It helps to know what albums are the most popular and what albums sell the most.

Rich Ledford, manager of Sam Goody in the University Mall, said some albums consistently do well year after year.

"Amy Grant, Mannheim Steamroller, Kenny G, Harry Connick Jr. and "A Very Special Christmas" usually do very well," Ledford said.

"Platinum Christmas", with artists such as Whitney Houston, NSync and TLC, is the newest album with potential to be a hit, he said.

Codilyn Kendell, a salesperson in the music section of Circuit City in Orem, said almost everyone looking for a Christmas album this year wants Amy Grant's "A Christmas to Remember."

On Amazon.com's Web site, "A Christmas to Remember" is ranked the second best selling album overall of those sold in Orem, Utah.

"That CD seems to be the one everyone wants and it is by far the hardest one to find," Kendell said.

Kelly Harvey, a salesperson at Boarders in Orem, said last year Celine Dion's album, "So This is Christmas," was the best seller.

"We sold tons and tons of her albums last year," Harvey said. "Almost every person would have her album in their hand."

Matt Jesperson, 25, a senior from Sunnyvale, Calif., majoring in English, said Nat King Cole's, "A Christmas Song," is his favorite Christmas album.

"Nat King Cole's Christmas album is the best because it's the only one out there with any soul," Jesperson said. "Anyone who listens to Amy Grant couldn't sing or dance their way out of a wet paper sack."

Allie Derrick, 19, a sophomore from Salt Lake City, who has not declared a major said her favorite Christmas albums are usually older.

"I like the old stuff. It is such a classic holiday. You have to go with the classics," Derrick said.

Ledford said it will be interesting to see what albums sell the best this year.

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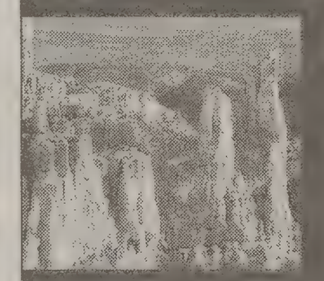

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Using skills to create cheap presents

By Janene Pack
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NewsNet Staff Writer

Christmas is usually teamed up with presents; but not all presents need to cost a lot of money. There are opportunities to give without dishing out the cash.

When it comes to giving gifts, it is the thought that counts.

Favorite presents to give and receive of include food.

Alicia Kaufman, 20, a junior from Monroe, Conn., majoring in international politics, said you should make someone his or her favorite meal.

"Everyone likes to be spoiled," Kaufman said. "So to not have to cook, but still be able to eat good food is great."

Kaufman said ending the meal with a good foot rub or back rub is a plus.

Food isn't the only gift that doesn't cost money. Crafts are another great option and can be very beautiful as well as useful.

Alene Kaufman, homemaker, said she isn't very crafty, but she has enjoyed many gifts that have been crafts.

"My sisters are very talented and have sent me many creative gifts made from their hands," Kaufman said. "One of the best gifts I received was a vest from one of my sisters made from old scraps."

> **"One of the best gifts you can give to a married couple is offer to baby-sit their children so they can out together."**
> — Alene Kaufman, homemaker

Alene Kaufman also said that even though she is not crafty, she donates her time for friends or family.

"One of the best gifts you can give to a married couple is offer to baby-sit their children so they can go out together," Kaufman said. "It is comforting to know that a couple can go away and know that their children are in good hands."

For those who are not crafty, there are other options.

Maria Artega, psychiatric technician, said that one of the best gifts to give is a photograph.

"You can take a picture of your loved ones and put it in one of your frames for them," Artega said. "It is easy and very meaningful."

And after all, pictures last forever, she said.

Another place to get ideas for gifts are craft books and magazines from the local library.

Memories can also last forever, so if you don't have any money, don't sweat it.

Christmas isn't about gifts that cost a lot of money; it is about giving what you can with love.

So, break out your cooking and craft skills to make good memories.

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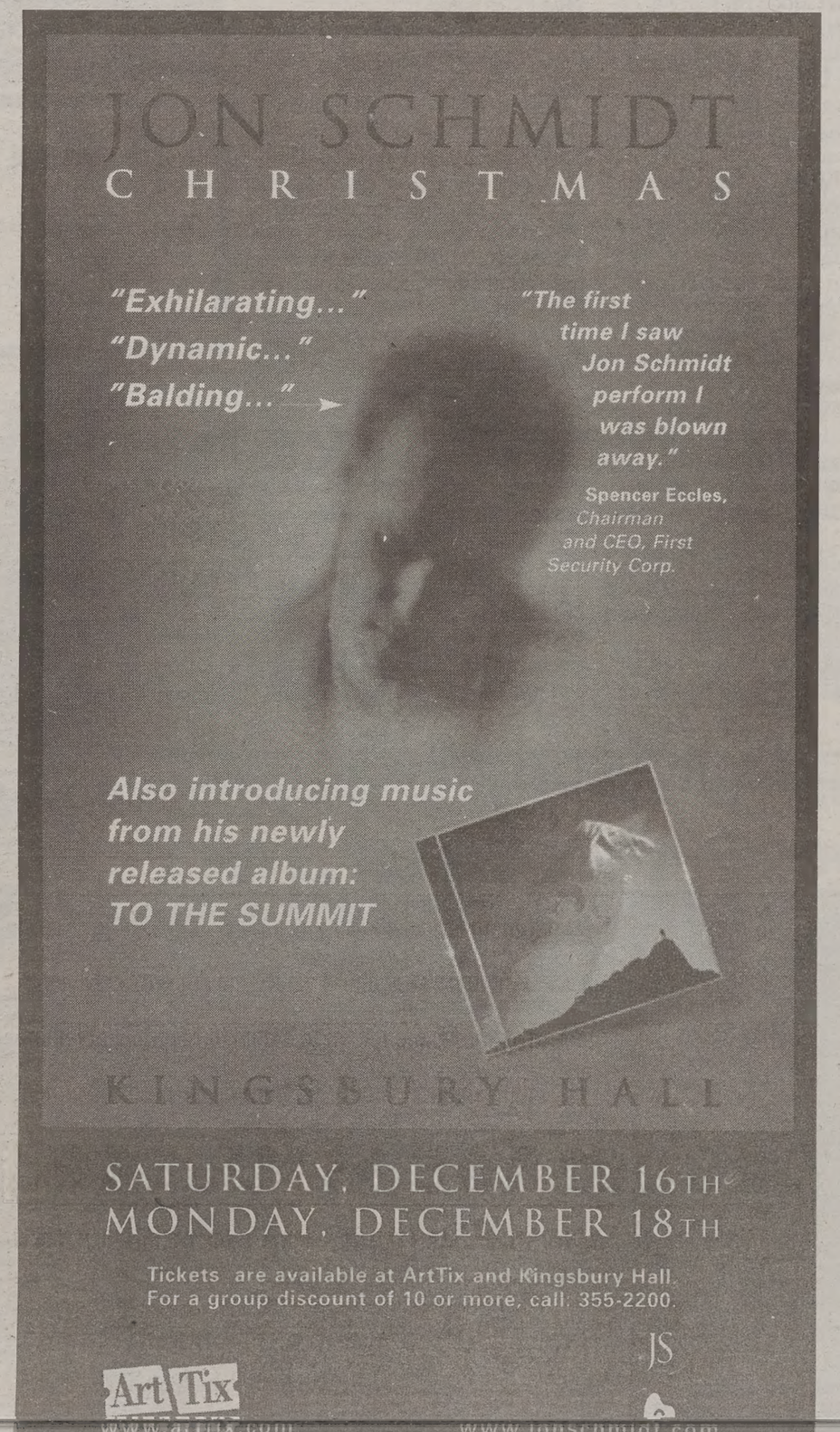

crazy
from page 12

"I was always excited to get this package in the mail, only to open it and find something like a plastic pen with no ink – and don't even think about throwing it away because Grandma would know," Goodman said.

"I think my favorite was when my brother got a set of six coffee mugs directly from Ed McMahon right before he went on his mission."

And the grandparents can always be counted on for these bizarre gifts.

> **"... And don't even think about throwing it away because Grandma would know."**
> — Tim Goodman, student

Katie Conrad, 20, a history teaching major from Portland, Ore., may never forget her Y2K Christmas because of her grandparents – she will always have "Milo the Millennial bug" to remind her.

"They gave me this shiny, hot pink bug who wears a top hat and has a zipper in his back to store your belongings," Conrad said. "My zipper pouch came complete with a millennial T-shirt stuffed inside."

Always a treat.

But things could be worse – at least Conrad's gift had never been alive.

"When I was on my mission one of our investigators gave me a chicken's foot with a ribbon tied around it," said Kevin Brandvold, 21, a business major from San Francisco, "then he threw it in the soup and we ate it."

Jeff Dempsey, 22, a business major from Raleigh, N.C., never understood the logic behind his food-related gifts either.

"Every year I would get a coconut in my stocking," Dempsey said. "I mean, we were celebrating Christmas in the middle of my uncle's cornfields in Illinois, and giving each other tropical fruit. It never made sense to me."

And as long as everyone has neurotic grandparents and other odd, but well-meaning distant relatives, Christmas gifts may never make sense – but that's part of the fun of gift giving.

The Daily Universe
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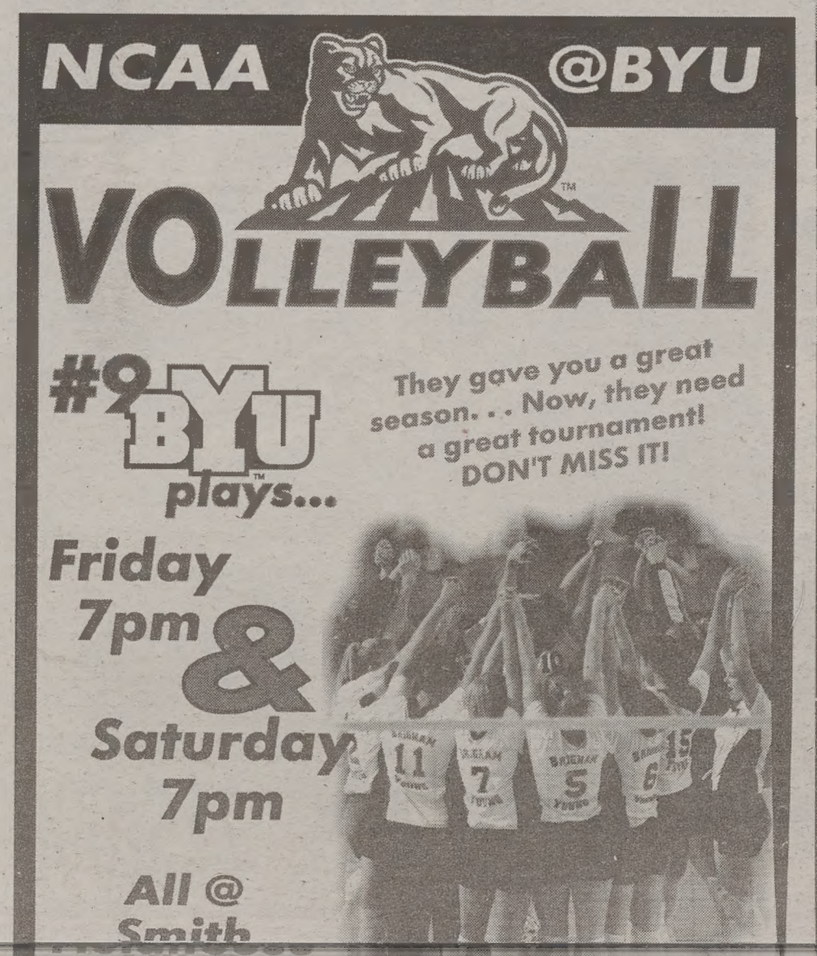
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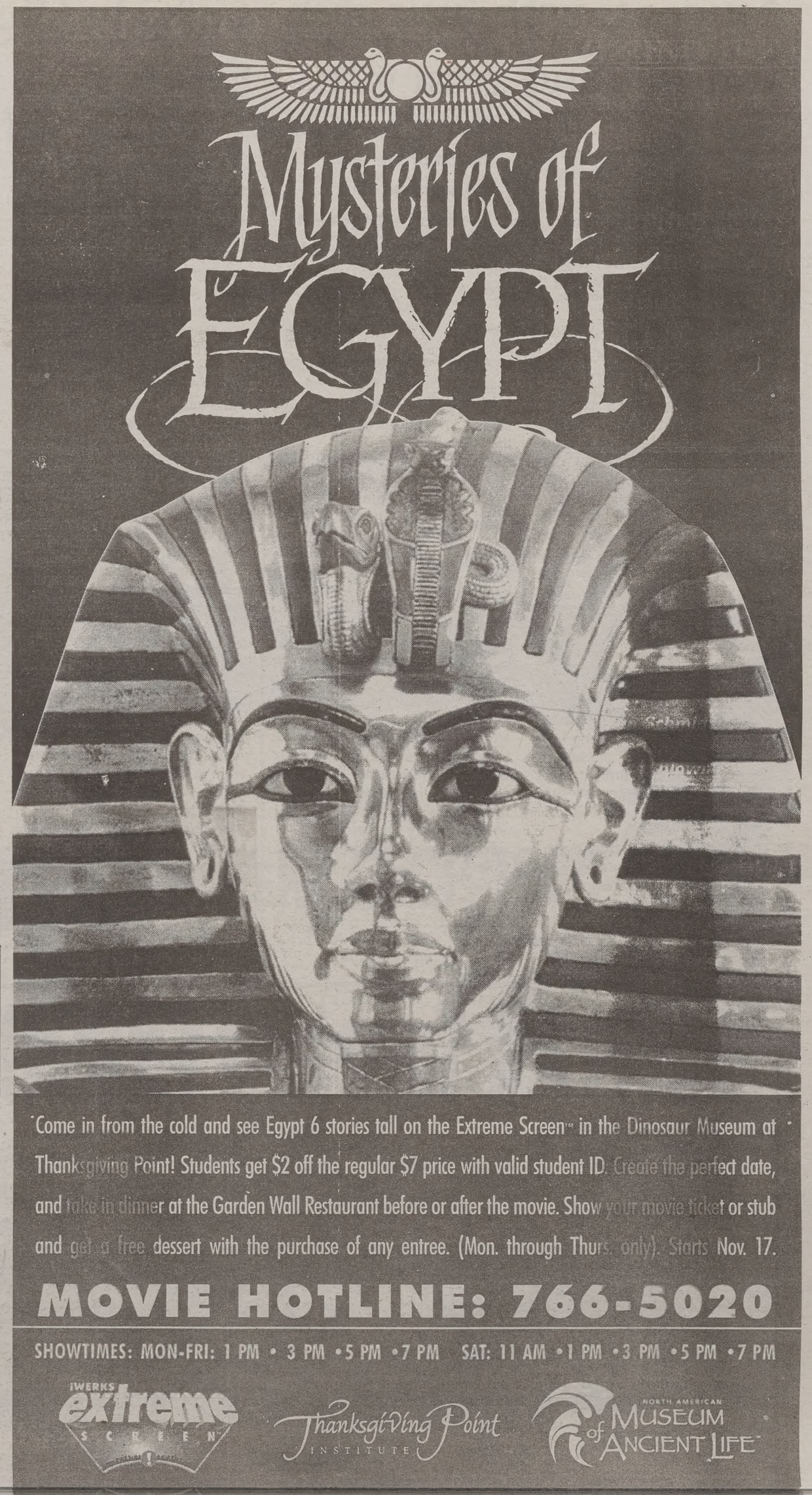
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Students with little cash can still find great gifts

By Matt Park
park@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

> "Some of the best gifts I have ever received were given as a white elephant."
>
> — Mark Debry, student

Some call it the "starving-student syndrome," or resourcefulness, others just call it cheap.

Whatever your gift-giving strategy for this holiday season, it always seems to come down to money.

Garrett Smith, 22, an open major from Santa Barbara, Calif. said that a limit was always placed on gifts in his family.

"Our parents wanted us to be creative, and I think it really helped us use our minds to get cool, personal gifts. It also helped derail problems with one kid spending more than another," he said.

Smith said that it was a challenge to refrain from spending more than the $10 limit, but that it made for better gifts.

All A Dollar employee Sandra Higgins has seen a large increase in business for the holiday seasons.

"Our business always increases with the holidays, in part because office pools or white elephant parties often have a limit on how much you can spend," she said.

Higgins said that dollar stores often have a variety of fun, wacky gifts that are not found in traditional stores.

"We have things that mainstream retailers won't have. It makes it easy and cheap to be creative," Higgins said.

White elephant parties are also a common way for friends to save money during the holiday season.

In white elephant gift giving, people give gifts from items that they already own.

Mark Debry, 25, is from Provo and is pursuing a masters degree in information systems.

"Our group of friends always do a white-elephant exchange. It keeps us honest because if a friend has something we want, we can hint at it for our white elephant gift," he said.

Debry said the main reason for the white elephant format is to save money and increase creativity.

"Some of the best gifts I have ever received were given as a white elephant. You know what they say, 'one man's trash is another man's treasure'," he said.

Bulk candy ranks as another inexpensive gift that is popular among college students.

Sherri Stone, 22, from Denver, Colo. is majoring in business.

"One year we set a $10 limit, and my roommate spent it all on bulk candy. I loved it, because it was like Halloween and Christmas all in one," she said.

Gifts on Christmas Eve: good or bad?

By Scott Smith
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NewsNet Staff Writer

To open or not to open presents on Christmas Eve ... that is the question.

The holiday season is filled with many traditions, and one of the most anticipated traditions is the gift exchange on Christmas day; but on Christmas Eve?

Cori Smith, 25, a graduate student from Park City, Summit County, said in her family, they use Christmas Eve to give their personal presents to the other family members.

She said the way the tradition works is when the family gathers on Christmas Eve, they take turns giving a present to another family member.

"This is fun because it creates anticipation for the giving, rather than the receiving," Smith said.

She said it also causes her to think more about what present she wants to give to each family member.

They use Christmas morning for the presents "Santa" brings, Smith said.

Brock Lyle, 22, a junior from Lafayette, Calif., said he does not believe in opening presents on Christmas Eve.

"It is like eating dessert before your dinner," Lyle said. "It just causes you to focus on the wrong things."

Smith said in her family, it was necessary to wait until all family members were ready to go to the Christmas tree.

"Dad always had to shave," Smith said, "and that always felt like an eternity when I was a little kid."

She said the shaving tradition probably started as punishment for waking up so early, it has grown into an integral part of Christmas morning.

There are spiritual gift exchange traditions too.

Smith said her family has an interesting tradition that focuses on the spiritual side of the Christmas holiday.

"Each year on Christmas Eve, we give a gift to Jesus Christ," Smith said.

She said this involves personally writing down things that each family member needs to improve on and placing that paper in a special box.

Each Christmas Eve the last year's gift is evaluated and new goals are set, Smith said.

She said this helps her remember the spiritual aspect of Christmas and be thankful for the Savior Jesus Christ.

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Best Christmas tip: shop early

By Emily Hellewell
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NewsNet Staff Writer

Sometimes the most miserable part of the giving season is finding the perfect gifts to give.

Stores with Santa Clause, crowds of people carrying bags full of sweaters that are too small and toys that break before New Year's Day, can create a miserable shopping experience.

It is nearly impossible to find an acceptable gift at the last minute for the little-known cousin picked for the family gift exchange, let alone for parents or good friends.

Marche Boyer, an employee at the Gap in University Mall, said there are ways to find gift ideas even during the busy holiday shopping season.

Gift sets filled with lotions and perfumes are great gift ideas and are sometimes wrapped as gift packs, she said.

Boyer said customers who need more help and suggestions from employees should plan shopping trips for less busy times, like earlier in the day.

Carol Covert, who works at ZCMI in the University Mall, said she suggests starting holiday shopping early because there is a better selection of sizes and colors.

The holidays are busy times, and when the right product is not in stock, it can make everyone more stressed out, she said.

Covert said customers need to be prepared to be more patient at this time of the year.

There are more people shopping so employees find it hard to give individual attention to every customer, she said.

April Adams, an employee at Bath and Body Works in the University Mall, enjoys working during the holiday season.

People are more focused on giving to others rather than buying for themselves, she said.

They are nicer, Adams said. Customers are filled with the holiday spirit and are more patient.

Adams suggests shopping early in order to have the best shopping experience.

"It is more calming to shop early than waiting until the last day," she said.

Kristen Turley, am employee at Abercrombie and Fitch at the Shops at the Riverwoods, said she agreed that it is important to be a little extra patient while holiday shopping.

Shopping in the morning and in the middle of the week, not on the weekend, is more pleasant because there are fewer crowds, Turley said.

Sharon Hampton decided to get a jump-start on her holiday shopping this year.

Hampton said if she gets her shopping done early, the holiday season seems to go smoothly.

"I have time to enjoy the holidays," she said.

Hampton said it is more enjoyable for her to shop when the stores are not crowded, like they are in the late morning, afternoon and early evening.

Shoppers hit the University Mall in search of the perfect Christmas gifts.

Erin Guinn/ Daily Universe

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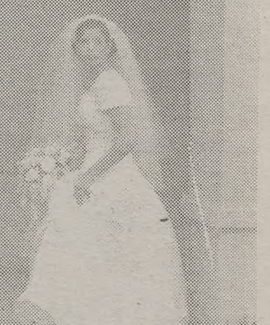

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Avoiding the holiday return blues: shopping for women and men this season

By Tina Thorley
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NewsNet Staff Writer

'Tis the season of giving, but with Christmas creeping up right around the same time students have finals, presents might be the last thing on everyone's mind.

Women never fear. To help ease the stress of finding that perfect gift for the men in your life, here are some helpful suggestions.

Kitty Mcewan is the manager of men's sports wear at ZCMI in Orem.

She said that because it is wintertime the most practical gifts for men are usually flannel shirts or fleece vests. Anything fleece is a plus.

"Remote control gifts are especially popular for the young at heart," Mcewan said.

Brett Lund, managers of men's furnishing and the young men's department at ZCMI in Orem, said he recommends going back to the basics.

Ties, t-shirts, casual pants and sweaters are always in style, he said.

"Women buying gifts should take advantage of gift receipts," Lund said.

He said the gift receipts make it possible for the recipient of the present to return the gift for the price paid without actually having to know the price.

Being that the Provo/Orem area receives much of the business from college students, Lund said clearance sales are a hit.

"Everything, especially Polo or Tommy Hilfiger jeans, go out the door," he said.

ZCMI will be having sales every weekend from Thanksgiving until Christmas, Lund said.

Dwight Allen is the manager of the men's and home department at JCPenny in the Provo Towne Centre Mall.

"Many women buy sweaters for guys, but I don't think the men like to get them as much as the women like to give them," Allen said.

Naturally, tools and outdoorsman supplies are hot he said. But so far the hottest item has been the fold-up scooters.

For the men on your list who are preparing for a mission, Stephen Ritter said he recommends suits, a watch or luggage.

Ritter, 18, a freshman from Orem, Utah with an open major, said traditional gifts like CDs are always a definite yes.

"I love gift certificates for clothes, music, books, and especially food," Ritter said.

For the sports fanatic on the list who might not enjoy the clothes as much, Utah Valley State College student Heber Nelson from Kingman, Ariz. suggests any kind of sports ball.

"I would really want a nice leather official football or something like that," he said.

Good luck women and remember whatever the gift, it is the thought that counts; but save the receipt, just in case.

By Meghan Riding
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Unwrapping a Christmas present is one of the most anticipated and nerve racking events of the year.

Will the gift be liked, or will it end up back at the store?

This year for Christmas, men can safely choose a few items that will allow all receipts to be safely lost.

Crysta St. John, assistant women's department manager at JCPenny in Provo, said clothes are a popular item. Sweaters are especially popular around Christmas time because of the cold weather, she said.

"Another popular item is leather jackets. Surprisingly, they are reasonably priced between $99 to $199," St. John said.

A classic gift that men usually give women is perfume, St. John said.

To avoid the possibility of the gift receiver returning the present, many people have turned to giving gift certificates, St. John said.

"This is starting to get even more popular with parents who can then let the child choose the gift," she said.

Scott Jensen, 22, a junior from Springfield, Va., with an undeclared major, said that he avoids giving the wrong present by bringing the person along.

"Maybe we can go out and pick the present out together — surprises are overrated," Jensen said. "It's better to get something the girl will like."

Clothes and CDs are the most common present to buy for women, Jensen said.

"I think girls love what I get them, but I don't know about other guys," he said.

Manju Varghese, 21, a senior from Potomac, Md., majoring in film, said she wants a gift that reflects the relationship she has with the giver.

"I want something unexpected, not just roses," Varghese said. "Music and books are wonderful. These are good gifts because it shows the person knows your likes so it's really personal."

If the present isn't exactly what she wanted, Varghese said she would find a use for it somehow.

"If I get a gift I don't like I usually just say thank you and put it away unless there is a gift receipt," she said. "Or I use the present for a white elephant gift party."

The trick to avoiding an unwanted gift is for each receiver to be open minded and not too picky, Varghese said.

Deanne Jensen, 20, a sophomore from Springfield, Va., majoring in elementary education, said men, in her experience, don't usually get things women really want. When this happens, Jensen said she does one of a few things.

"If I get a present I don't like, I learn to like it, or hide it, or I take it back," she said.

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Wrapping up the holiday season: creating cheap and chic packages

By Bethany Park
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NewsNet Staff Writer

Young children sometimes enjoy the wrapping of a package more than the actual gift, but it still ends up in the garbage.

"Wrapping paper and wrapping products are very expensive. We try to stay frugal in our purchases, but it still amounts to thousands of dollars," said Dennis Lindberg, BYU Bookstore assistant director over operations.

Most people want their presents to look good, but how to do it without the expense?

Number one, many places (such as the BYU Bookstore) offer free gift wrapping with purchases. The employees that wrap go through a short training period to learn the tricks of wrapping a beautiful package, Lindberg said. So not only will the package look amazing, but it's free.

But, when complimentary gift-wrapping isn't an option there are creative ways to wrap that are still inexpensive.

Wrapping in newspaper with complimentary red ribbon can look good, but often times just looks cheap. Using magazine pages, especially those with holiday colors, is one step up.

"I took a bunch of my old J.Crew catalogs, taped pages together, and wrapped my gift with that. After adding some ribbon it looked really cute," said Angela Carlisle, a BYU graduate.

"One year I made gift bags using wax paper and rose petals, bits of dried evergreens, Christmas confetti, etc. I ironed two pieces of wax paper with the dÈcor in between so that they melted together. But, don't forget to protect your iron surface with plain paper," said Janice Thorley, BYU graduate from Las Vegas.

Another idea from craftcentralstation.com is to draw childlike Christmas pictures (or just let children draw them) on large sheets of white paper and use them to wrap packages. Tie with colorful ribbon and make a bow by gathering a few crayons together and tying them with ribbon.

At marthastewart.com you can find many ideas for gift wrapping. An example is how to make personal cards with old family photos.

A black-and-white photocopy of the picture desired and a Design art marker in Gray 1 (very light gray) are the only materials needed.

First, place the photocopy, print side down, onto the paper surface desired. Next, use the gray marker to completely color over the back of the photocopied image until the image starts to show through the back of the paper. Finally, wait 5 minutes for it to set and dry, then carefully peel the photocopy away.

Gift Wrapping: *the lowdown*

* Use colored magazine or catalog pages
* Use newspaper tied with a bright red ribbon
* Iron rose petals or other objects in between wax paper for wrapping
* Draw childlike pictures on butcher paper
* Use paper bags from the grocery store tied with twine and fall leaves

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Where you can go, if you don't like snow

By Rob Meier
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NewsNet Staff Writer

Although it has been said many times many ways, it may not be true that all Utahn's are dreaming of a White Christmas.

Traditionally the majority of Utahn's go where it is warm, said Rolawne Fairclough, spokesperson for the Salt Lake City American Auto Association and Travel Agency.

"Mexico, Hawaii, Arizona, Southern California and Las Vegas are the vacations spots of choice," Fairclough said.

The ski resorts are also popular during Christmas for Utah families. They might go up to the resorts for or a night or two, but that is not considered a family vacation.

"We classify vacations as traveling 100 miles or more," Fairclough said.

It is pretty typical when people travel to find a warm place or to find family that lives in a warm place. Every year we take national and local surveys and they all show that people go where it is warm, Fairclough said.

Griff Dutson, resident of Salt Lake, who will vacation in San Diego, said the winter is long so people take every opportunity to leave.

"Personally I hate the cold and would much rather go where it is warm," Dutson said.

Unless you are a skier, Utah in the wintertime just doesn't have many activities. Besides going to the movies and returning presents, there is not much to do during Christmas Break, said Katie Lewis, a Utahn Traveling to southern California this Christmas.

"This year we are going to Disneyland, in Utah you can't do that," Lewis said.

Disneyland, Catalina Island and Sea World are just a few of the things you can do, which is a lot more then anything you can do in Utah, Lewis said.

California is versatile because there are distinct cultures in San Diego, Orange County and Los Angeles.

And for those who like both cold and warm weather, California offers ski resorts an hour drive away.

Although college students may not have the resources to take an extensive vacation, many take road trips to California.

"Nothing beats playing basketball on the coast; you can't do that here," Dutson said.

Although most Utahn's go where it is warm, there are those who head up north to places like Island Park and west Yellowstone.

Island Park and west Yellowstone are cold and they get a lot of snow, but the snowmobilers love it, Fairclough said.

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